

WISCONSIN

DRAWER 12A

MID WEST

71.2009 OCS. 05315

Other States

Wisconsin

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



Wilson tavern near Poynette, Wis., still well preserved as a farm house. In it were held a Lincoln election and an interesting lawsuit.

Ancient Tavern Recalls Lincoln's Election Day

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL

Baraboo—In territorial times a thread of road ran from Portage to old Dekorra on the Wisconsin river some miles below, then on to Lodi, Cross Plains and the lead region beyond. In the forties and fifties it was much traveled for it was a "cut off" from the old military road which was built in the thirties to connect the three forts in frontier Wisconsin—Fort Howard at Green Bay, Fort Winnebago at Portage and Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien. The original military highway passed through Poynette and touched the north shore of Lake Mendota, while the territorial road through Dekorra was a more direct route.

A few miles south of Dekorra, on the territorial highway, stands the Wilson tavern, now one of the most interesting landmarks in the entire region roundabout. Wallace Rowan, a celebrated taverner of territorial days, had a place of entertainment made of logs about three miles above the location of the Wilson tavern, and the stream on which it was located is known as Roman creek. In after years Robert Wilson built his tavern at the confluence of Wilson

creek with the stream named for Rowan and as a farmhouse it stands today, neat and well preserved.

When Abraham Lincoln was a candidate for president the voters of the town of Dekorra gathered in the Wilson tavern to cast its ballots for the Republican leader who was to occupy the White house during the Civil war. During the period of the impending crisis many were the hot discussions on the topic of slavery about the roaring fire of the tavern and when election day came ballots were cast for the one who was to become one of the greatest figures in American history. The fact that the Wilson tavern played its part in a Lincoln election is the most important event which has transpired in the wooden structure.

Early lawsuits have been tried here. The most interesting case was where a citizen threatened to do violence to a neighbor. Instead of turning the other cheek the one in peril caused the agitated one to be arrested and the trial took place in the tavern. The man arrested was of limited means and agreed to give his lawyer one of his herd for conducting the case. The road was a long one, there were many delays and continuances, so that at several stages it was necessary to compensate the attorney with an animal. In order to keep up the fight—avoid

going to jail or paying a fine—the suit ran through several months and by the time the end was reached the farmer had no cattle, the lawyer had them all.

By noticing the turned cornice at the end of the structure in the illustration, one will observe the construction of the building dates back to the fifties and sixties. This style of architecture was very popular in southern Wisconsin 60 or 70 years ago and many old homes which dot the landscape in the first settled portions of the state date back to that time.

At the tavern tarried those in the covered wagon, the rural peddler, the early traveler, and others who chanced to be passing along this territorial road. Today with the stress of travel on a state trunk highway through Poynette, old settlers say one cannot realize how great was the passing on this route in years ago. The tavern has now passed into an altered world, the road has become a vagabond, with but now and then a farmer's vehicle or a passing car.

Were those olden days to return to the Wilson tavern, one could see travelers stuffed with beef or mutton at the ample board or their thirsts quenched at the wayside bar. On many an evening one could hear the fiddler fill the air and the prompter raise his voice, for the people of that day loved pleasure and rode seven miles or more in a wagon drawn by sleepy oxen in order to enjoy the excitement of a dance.

Today the old tavern sits by the roadside as tame as a kitten by the fire, in protest of the needless hurry and flurry of a restless world.



Wilson tavern near Poynette, Wis., still well preserved as a farm house. In it were held a Lincoln election and an interesting lawsuit. *Milwaukee Journal* 2-8-1925

Ancient Tavern Recalls Lincoln's Election Day

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL

Baraboo—In territorial times a thread of road ran from Portage to old Dekorra on the Wisconsin river some miles below, then on to Lodi, Cross Plains and the lead region beyond. In the forties and fifties it was much traveled for it was a "cut off" from the old military road which was built in the thirties to connect the three forts in frontier Wisconsin—Fort Howard at Green Bay, Fort Winnebago at Portage and Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien. The original military highway passed through Poynette and touched the north shore of Lake Mendota, while the territorial road through Dekorra was a more direct route.

A few miles south of Dekorra, on the territorial highway, stands the Wilson tavern, now one of the most interesting landmarks in the entire region roundabout. Wallace Rowan, a celebrated taverner of territorial days, had a place of entertainment made of logs about three miles above the location of the Wilson tavern, and the stream on which it was located is known as Roman creek. In after years Robert Wilson built his tavern at the confluence of Wilson

creek with the stream named for Rowan and as a farmhouse it stands today, neat and well preserved.

When Abraham Lincoln was a candidate for president the voters of the town of Dekorra gathered in the Wilson tavern to cast its ballots for the Republican leader who was to occupy the White house during the Civil war. During the period of the impending crisis many were the hot discussions on the topic of slavery about the roaring fire of the tavern and when election day came ballots were cast for the one who was to become one of the greatest figures in American history. The fact that the Wilson tavern played its part in a Lincoln election is the most important event which has transpired in the wooden structure.

Early lawsuits have been tried here. The most interesting case was where a citizen threatened to do violence to a neighbor. Instead of turning the other cheek the one in peril caused the agitated one to be arrested and the trial took place in the tavern. The man arrested was of limited means and agreed to give his lawyer one of his herd for conducting the case. The road was a long one, there were many delays and continuances, so that at several stages it was necessary to compensate the attorney with an animal. In order to keep up the fight—avoid

going to jail or paying a fine—the suit ran through several months and by the time the end was reached the farmer had no cattle, the lawyer had them all.

By noticing the turned cornice at the end of the structure in the illustration, one will observe the construction of the building dates back to the fifties and sixties. This style of architecture was very popular in southern Wisconsin 60 or 70 years ago and many old homes which dot the landscape in the first settled portions of the state date back to that time.

At the tavern tarried those in the covered wagon, the rural peddler, the early traveler, and others who chanced to be passing along this territorial road. Today with the stress of travel on a state trunk highway through Poynette, old settlers say one cannot realize how great was the passing on this route in years ago. The tavern has now passed into an altered world, the road has become a vagabond, with but now and then a farmer's vehicle or a passing car.

Were those olden days to return to the Wilson tavern, one could see travelers stuffed with beef or mutton at the ample board or their thirsts quenched at the wayside bar. On many an evening one could hear the fiddler fill the air and the prompter raise his voice, for the people of that day loved pleasure and rode seven miles or more in a wagon drawn by sleepy oxen in order to enjoy the excitement of a dance.

Today the old tavern sits by the roadside as tame as a kitten by the fire, in protest of the needless hurry and flurry of a restless world.



Milwaukee Journal 2-12-1925

Waukesha Once Host to Mrs. Lincoln

The old house in the upper picture, which stands on a side hill in Waukesha, is said to have been the home of Mary Todd Lincoln, widow of the great emancipator, for nearly two months in the summer of 1870. Mrs. Lincoln, according to the story, went to Waukesha under an assumed name and sought to communicate with the spirit of Abraham Lincoln through two Waukesha mediums. A sketch of Mrs. Lincoln appears below the picture.

Widow of Lincoln Sought Spirit of Abe in Waukesha

BY STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL

Waukesha, Wis. — The spirit of Abraham Lincoln was called to Waukesha in the summer of 1870 to meet



Mrs. Diedrich

Mary Todd Lincoln, his widow, according to one of the legends of this city. Whether or not the spirit came, the legend makes no pretense of telling.

Mrs. Lincoln was recognized in a quiet, retiring woman who came here under another name and took lodging with Mrs. O. M. Hubbard at Wisconsin and St. Paul avs. Mr. Hubbard was a medium, and the visitor sought, through him and Dr. Arthur Holbrook, a spiritualist of some reputation, to communicate with her dead husband.

Mrs. Hubbard suspected, according to the story, that the dignified stranger was a person of importance, and asked Mrs. H. N. Davis to call one day to look at the lodger. Mrs. Davis was the mother of Cushman K. Davis, Waukesha, who was governor of Minnesota and senator from that state. She had a local reputation as having a keen memory for faces. She recognized the woman at once as Mrs. Lincoln.

Many Callers Came

The word spread rapidly through a small circle of friends of the women who were in on the secret, and Mrs. Hubbard's home was astonishingly popular for a few weeks as women dropped in, ostensibly as callers but really to have a look at the widow of the Emancipator.

Some old residents are said to have told of the delivery of an express wagon load of mail after the news of Mrs. Lincoln's presence in Waukesha reached former addresses, where mail had accumulated after her disappearance.

Few persons remain in Waukesha who recall Mrs. Lincoln's brief residence here—if it really was Mrs. Lincoln. E. R. Estberg, president of the Waukesha National bank, a small boy at the time, lived less than a block from the Hubbard home. He remembers seeing the Hubbards' lodger out walking for exercise and recalls that she was pointed out to him as Mrs. Lincoln.

Was Show Place

Hundreds of persons pass the intersection of Wisconsin and St. Paul avs. daily without so much as a glance at the old house on the hillside where the legendary visitor

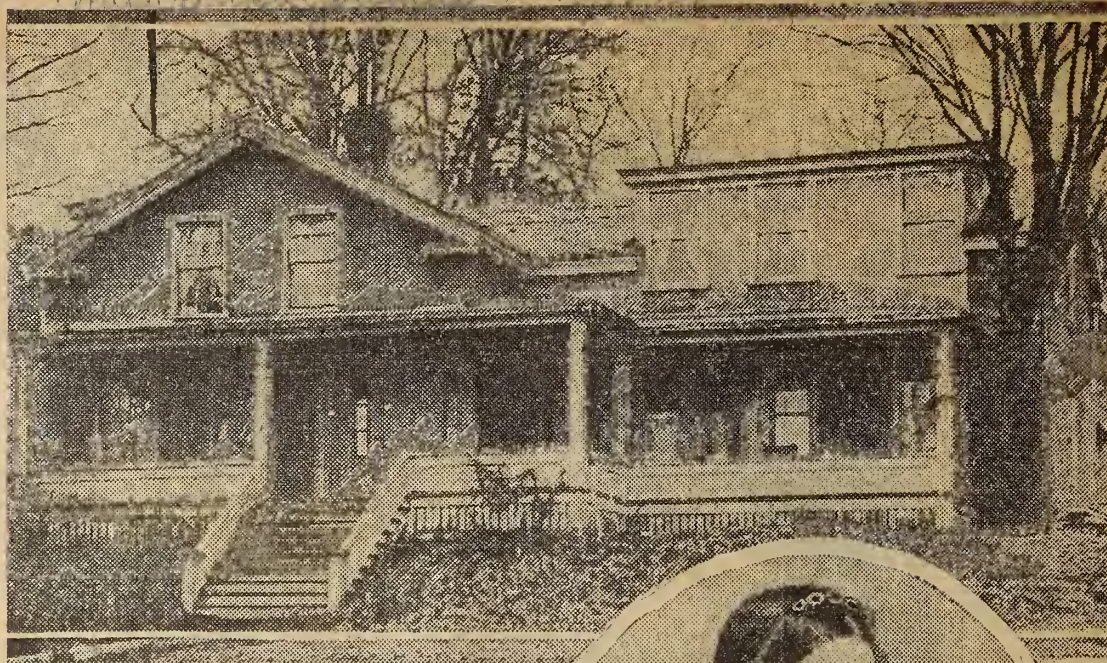
spent nearly two months. The old, rambling house has been occupied the last 23 years by Mrs. Ella Diedrich, and it was modernized somewhat by her and her late husband years ago.

The house had many visitors years ago, when it was one of the show places pointed out to resorters who came to the Spring City from far and wide. The health waters of Waukesha drew heavily from the southern states, and it always was a mystery to Mrs. Diedrich why so many southerners were so anxious to see the room which "Mrs. Lincoln" occupied.

Wanted to "Sit in Room"

"People don't come here so much any more," said Mrs. Diedrich. "Once in a while someone asks to see the room. Years ago, when Waukesha was a great resort, they just came and came. I never could figure out why southerners, who were supposed to have no liking for Abraham Lincoln, should want to visit the house where his widow stayed.

"Oh, just let me sit in the room for a minute!" they used to beg, and, of course, I would let them."



Waukesha Once Host to Mrs. Lincoln

The old house in the upper picture, which stands on a side hill in Waukesha, is said to have been the home of Mary Todd Lincoln, widow of the great emancipator, for nearly two months in the summer of 1870. Mrs. Lincoln, according to the story, went to Waukesha under an assumed name and sought to communicate with the spirit of Abraham Lincoln through two Waukesha mediums. A sketch of Mrs. Lincoln appears below the picture.

Widow of Lincoln Sought Spirit of Abe in Waukesha

BY STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL

Waukesha, Wis. — The spirit of Abraham Lincoln was called to Waukesha in the summer of 1870 to meet



Mrs. Diedrich

Paul avs. Mr. Hubbard was a medium, and the visitor sought, through him and Dr. Arthur Holbrook, a spiritualist of some reputation, to communicate with her dead husband.

Mrs. Hubbard suspected, according to the story, that the dignified stranger was a person of importance, and asked Mrs. H. N. Davis to call one day to look at the lodger. Mrs. Davis was the mother of Cushman K. Davis, Waukesha, who was governor of Minnesota and senator from that state. She had a local reputation as having a keen memory for faces. She recognized the woman at once as Mrs. Lincoln.

Many Callers Came

The word spread rapidly through a small circle of friends of the women who were in on the secret, and Mrs. Hubbard's home was astonishingly popular for a few weeks as women dropped in, ostensibly as callers but really to have a look at the widow of the Emancipator.

Some old residents are said to have told of the delivery of an express wagon load of mail after the news of Mrs. Lincoln's presence in Waukesha reached former addresses, where mail had accumulated after her disappearance.

Few persons remain in Waukesha who recall Mrs. Lincoln's brief residence here—if it really was Mrs. Lincoln. E. R. Estberg, president of the Waukesha National bank, a small boy at the time, lived less than a block from the Hubbard home. He remembers seeing the Hubbards' lodger out walking for exercise and recalls that she was pointed out to him as Mrs. Lincoln.

Was Show Place

Hundreds of persons pass the intersection of Wisconsin and St. Paul avs. daily without so much as a glance at the old house on the hillside where the legendary visitor

spent nearly two months. The old, rambling house has been occupied the last 23 years by Mrs. Ella Diedrich, and it was modernized somewhat by her and her late husband years ago.

The house had many visitors years ago, when it was one of the show places pointed out to resorters who came to the Spring City from far and wide. The health waters of Waukesha drew heavily from the southern states, and it always was a mystery to Mrs. Diedrich why so many southerners were so anxious to see the room which "Mrs. Lincoln" occupied.

Wanted to "Sit in Room"

"People don't come here so much any more," said Mrs. Diedrich. "Once in a while someone asks to see the room. Years ago, when Waukesha was a great resort, they just came and came. I never could figure out why southerners, who were supposed to have no liking for Abraham Lincoln, should want to visit the house where his widow stayed.

"Oh, just let me sit in the room for a minute!" they used to beg, and, of course, I would let them."

LINCOLN SLEPT, BUT WHERE? IS BIG QUESTION

Kirby House or Newhall House, Buyer of Mirror Asks.

Milwaukee Sentinel
5-19-1928
"Where did Abraham Lincoln sleep on the occasion of his memorable visit to Milwaukee?"

Thumbing the dusty and yellow pages of history, the old timers are seeking the answer to the question.

For, be it known, a great controversy rages; historians and the Old Boys are in a state of mighty disagreement—all because Thomas Edelman, who paid \$145 for a mirror and table in the Kirby house auction doubts very much that the mirror ever reflected the visage of the Great Emancipator.

WANTS MONEY BACK.

To get the story started right, Mr. Edelman visited the district attorney's office yesterday and told William A. Zabel, assistant prosecutor, that he wants his money back, because, in inquiries made at the Old Settlers' club he was informed that Lincoln actually stopped at the Newhall house when he came here on Sept. 30, 1859, to deliver an address at the state fair. Mr. Zabel told him that this was a matter so controversial that it would take a court to decide the issue.

Oak Kirby, son of Abner Kirby, the builder of the first unit of the Kirby house and mayor of Milwaukee in the good old days, disagrees with both Mr. Edelman and Mr. Zabel.

"Abraham Lincoln stopped at the Kirby house and there's no question about it," said he. "I've lived here for seventy-two years; I wasn't very old when Lincoln was here, but father told that story many times and took much pride in the fact that Lincoln stopped at his hotel. What's more, Gen. Grant stopped there, too."

HISTORIES CAME DOWN.

Down from the shelves came the musty files and histories. First the boys referred to the files of The Sentinel, carrying Lincoln's address and another brief note that merely said:

"In the evening Lincoln gave a political speech at the Newhall house."

"Too bad that we didn't have some of the reporters in those days who covered the visit of the Bremen fliers," said Oak. "We'd know where he slept, how many strides it took the martyred president to cross the lobby and how many snores came through the transom."

That didn't "prove nothing," as the saying goes, so the boys dragged out the "History of Milwaukee," by Howard Louis Conrad, and read:

"It was in 1859 that Abraham Lincoln made his only visit to Milwaukee. He came here on Sept. 30, in response to an invitation to deliver an address at the fair of the Wisconsin State Agricultural society.

NEWHALL HOUSE AGAIN.

"In the evening, at the request of a concourse of admirers, who visited him at the Newhall house, he stood upon a table and delivered a campaign speech."

"Sure he made a speech at the Newhall house," replied Oak. "The Bremen fliers made speeches at the New Pfister, too, but they didn't sleep there."

Next the group brought out William George Bruce's history of Milwaukee, wherein appears this sentence:

"No crowd of hacks or swarming reporters met Abraham Lincoln. He

was met by a representative of the state fair board and quietly conducted to the Old Newhall house, where he was to stay."

OAK IS STILL ADAMANT.

And Oak Kirby replied:

"They might conduct the celebrities to the Newhall house, just as you might lead a horse to water, but you couldn't make them sleep there any more than you can make the horse drink."

So they continued their perusal of the history by Mr. Bruce and read there the version given by Peter Van Vechten Jr. to the historian. In this version more discrepancies appeared and, while Lincoln's political speech was described, it appears that he didn't stand on a table, but on a box brought from the Van Vechten store.

Further, this story says, the late Henry W. Bleyer, who was a newspaper man in those days, told of the visit in a letter to Prof. W. G. Bleyer, at the University of Wisconsin, saying: "The distinguished visitor was driven in a carriage to the Newhall

house and from there to the fair grounds."

SLEEPING PLACE OVERLOOKED.

But Oak Kirby points out that none of the historians say where Abraham Lincoln slept; that none of them tell where he combed his hair or where he hung his coat and hat when he retired that night.

"That story of Lincoln's stay at the Kirby house is almost as old as I am; it's been told time and time again for more than three score years," Oak Kirby added. "My father was very emphatic in his assertion that Lincoln stayed at the Kirby house and the story was never once questioned during his life time. All of the celebrities came to the Kirby, we had them all from John L. Sullivan, Lillian Russell to Pat Rooney and Nat Goodwin."

May 23-1929

May L. Bauchle

LOCK BOX 75

Beloit, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. McHarg:

I had not forgotten to send you the information about Lincoln but I mislaid the article about his stopping at the Northwestern station to sign the papers in the lawsuit. I still cannot find them. My papers are in two houses on account of illness in the family and when I find it I will forward it. If there is anything more, or I have not made it plain, please let me know.

Sincerely

May L. Bauchle

PELOIT, WISCONSIN



Mr. John B. McHarg.
Laurens University
Appleton
Wisconsin

Lincoln Defended Title to Beloit Parking Station

His Briefs as Country Lawyer Saved Village Land from Grasping Hands

By MAY L. BAUCHLE

AN interesting story connected with the early settlement of Wisconsin came to light recently when the city of Beloit purchased a bit of ground in the heart of the business district. The immediate need of the community was for a parking space for automobiles so it has come about that Beloit has a parking place with a unique history inasmuch as no less a personage than Abraham Lincoln prepared the briefs which were used to defend its title in the early days of the city's history.

Although there were strict laws against pre-emption of lands for anything except farming purposes, and especially against speculation in village lots, the pioneers who left their eastern homes looking for an Eldorado or Paradise Valley were apt to forget those little formalities when they found that for which they had been seeking. So it was at Beloit. When the Blodgetts, the Browns, the Cranes and the Goodhues looked upon the beautiful valley of the Rock with its wooded banks and the sweep of green prairies beyond, they took up claims, divided the land between themselves in parcels to suit their needs and set about to build homes.

By 1837 the village was platted although it had not as yet been placed upon the market by the government. A little later the pioneers realized that they had no title to the land although all necessary procedures had been arranged among themselves just as if they had been authorized to do so by the government. When a land office was opened at Milwaukee, the residents of the village which was then called New Albany, held a meeting and deciding upon R. P. Crane as the man to represent their interests, all quit-claimed to him, upon his agreement to pre-empt the land according to law and then return to each man the land he had originally claimed.

An Unforeseen Opportunity

As had been planned, Mr. Crane went to Milwaukee and on November 26, 1838, entered his claim for 78.57 acres. Returning to Beloit he deeded to each man his share according to the survey of 1837. So far so good. Here it must be stated that Mr. Crane did exactly as he agreed and everyone was seemingly satisfied. No one, not even Mr. Crane himself could see the loopholes in the transaction. Out of fairness to Mr. Crane it must also be said that at that time it is likely he had no intention other than helping his neighbors to settle their difficulties. That he would later see a chance to help himself to the extreme discomfort of the others no one could foresee.

In the first place, an application for a patent to government land and the re-

ceiving of a said patent are two widely different things. The application was made in November, 1838, but the patent was not granted until May 9, 1842. In the meantime Crane had returned his neighbors their property, but he had retained certain lands along the river front which had been set aside by the village as a public landing and which were included in the 78 acres pre-empted by Mr. Crane.

In the early forties it was found that a bridge across the river was necessary and while the ford had been diagonally across the river it was decided that the bridge should be constructed nearly straight, as it is today. The land at the eastern end of the proposed bridge belonged to Benjamin Brown and from him the village purchased it, intending to give him in return some of the land included in the village landing. The title to the public landing was in Crane, as we have seen, but the village was using it and the village title would in due time have become clear by adverse possession had not Mr. Crane, upon receipt of the patent in 1842, become wise to the hold he had upon it. Accordingly he quit-claimed this strip for a small sum to one Gardner. Ejectment proceedings followed in which the holder of the quit-claim won. As if this was not bad enough for the struggling village, Matt Carpenter, who had been interested in the case, uncovered the irregularity in Crane's title and immediately began to act upon his discovery.

Court Battle Starts

Lucious G. Fisher held title to the land which is now Beloit's parking station through deeds dating back before the granting of the patent. Using Mr. Crane for this purpose, Mr. Carpenter secured deeds to the same property, not for himself but for friends who later deeded to Gov. Dillingham of Vermont, who was Carpenter's father-in-law. With the stage thus set, Carpenter pulled the strings which raised the curtain on one of the most exciting lawsuits ever begun in Wisconsin.

The case of Dillingham vs. Fisher was fought in the Circuit Court of Rock County and after a stubborn battle, Fisher won. Carpenter immediately carried it to the Supreme Court of the State and called in the best minds in the country to assist him. His opponents did the same. Chief Justice Edward Ryan made the long and tiresome journey from the east to help his friend, Gov. Dillingham. He brought with him elaborate briefs prepared by the great Rufus Choate himself. Arrayed against these formidable attorneys were United States Senator James R. Doolittle, and Daniel Cady, a celebrated authority on real estate law of Johnstown, New York.

The briefs upon which they depended to win and upon which they did win were prepared by a country lawyer, Abraham Lincoln.

Carpenter was not satisfied when the Wisconsin Supreme Court decided against him and his pompous father-in-law and carried his case to the United States Supreme Court. Here fate was against him, for a similar case hailing from Louisiana had just been tried and the decision upheld the decisions of the Louisiana and Wisconsin Supreme Courts. Carpenter therefore was allowed to withdraw his case. Fisher became the president of the first bank in Beloit and published the first newspaper, "The Beloit Journal." That Lincoln did not forget is proved by the fact that in 1861 when he held the highest office in the country, that of president, he appointed Lucious G. Fisher postmaster of Beloit, a position which he held for five years.



SIXTY-SIX YEARS AGO JUNE 8 THE LAWRENCE GUARDS, Lawrence college, Appleton, Wis., were mustered into military service by the federal government for Civil war duty. The beautifully engraved and colored muster roll of gallant Company E, 40th regiment, Wisconsin volunteer infantry, was recently found at the college where it is now in the library.

—Journal Color Photo

Eagle, "Old Abe."

Mascot of Company C, 8th Wis. Vol. See Chi. Trib. Nov. 11, 1931

ILY TRIBUNE: WEDNESDAY. NOVEMBER 11. 1931.

KEEPER OF OLD ABE, FAMOUS EAGLE THAT WENT TO WAR, DIES

Eau Claire, Wis., Nov. 10.—(P)—Daniel McCann, for many years the custodian of Old Abe, celebrated eagle which went to the civil war as the mascot of a Wisconsin company, is dead.

McCann's father in 1861 bought the eagle from an Indian. For a short time it remained at the McCann home, where Daniel cared for it. McCann often exhibited with pride a scar where Old Abe once bit him.

The bird was taken to war by Company C, Eighth Wisconsin volunteers.

Twenty years later Old Abe, on display at the state capitol in Madison, was injured when fire swept a portion of the building. He died soon after the fire. The bird was mounted and again displayed in the building. In 1904 another fire destroyed all of Old Abe but a few tail feathers.

28 March 1932

George P. Hambrecht, Director
State Board of Vocational Education
Madison, Wis.

My dear Mr. Hambrecht:

A letter from Berhardt Wall states that Lincoln visited at Gen. Wooster Harrison's house in Port Washington, '37, '38, or '39. This is news to me. I shall appreciate your kindness if you will let me know any information you may have on the subject. Wall wishes a photograph of the house. As I shall speak in Milwaukee, Apr. 9, I should plan to visit the old house, if it is true that Lincoln was once there.

It would give me great pleasure to meet you and to see some of your treasures. My collection of Lincolniana is a very modest one as compared with yours but it is a growing delight just the same and my interest is keen. If you will be at home on the evening of Apr. 7, I should be glad to arrange to drive to Milwaukee via Madison. If you are interested in some of the film-strip pictures in regard to which you wrote me a year ago, I shall be glad to show them to you.

With good wishes

Sincerely yours

EMPLOYEE MEMBERS
PETER T. SCHOEMANN, MILWAUKEE
LOUIS HOLTHUSEN, GREEN BAY
JOHN WIKSTRAND, SUPERIOR

AGRICULTURAL MEMBERS
WM. F. DETTINGER, HIXTON
R. H. LOETHER, EAU CLAIRE
H. W. GRISWOLD, WEST SALEM

EMPLOYER MEMBERS
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHEBOYGAN
HAROLD S. FALK, MILWAUKEE
JESSEL S. WHYTE, KENOSHA

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
JOHN CALLAHAN, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
MADISON
VOYTA WRABETZ, STATE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSIONER
MADISON

PRESIDENT
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHEBOYGAN
SECRETARY
C. L. GREIBER, MADISON

WISCONSIN STATE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

GEO. P. HAMBRECHT, DIRECTOR

MADISON, WISCONSIN

STAFF ORGANIZATION
E. E. GUNN, JR., TRADES AND INDUSTRIES
W. F. FAULKES, REHABILITATION
MARGARET JOHNSTON, HOME ECONOMICS
L. M. SASMAN, AGRICULTURE
H. C. THAYER, TEACHER TRAINING
JENNIE M. TURNER, ASST. TEACHER TRAINING
E. E. GUNN, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Madison, Wisconsin,
April 1, 1932.

Dr. John B. MacHarg,
Department of American History,
Lawrence College,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

My dear Dr. MacHarg:

I was surely pleased to receive your letter of March 28, advising me that you have received a letter from Bernhardt Wall, who states that Lincoln visited the General Wooster Harrison house in Port Washington along in the thirties. This is not a new discovery. Port Washington for many years has claimed that Lincoln visited that city at a time when he was considering a permanent location for his law practice, and the General Wooster Harrison house is the place designated as his stopping place while in Port Washington. Professor Julius Olson, at the University of Wisconsin, went into this matter quite thoroughly and he is inclined to accept this Wisconsin trip on the part of young Lincoln.

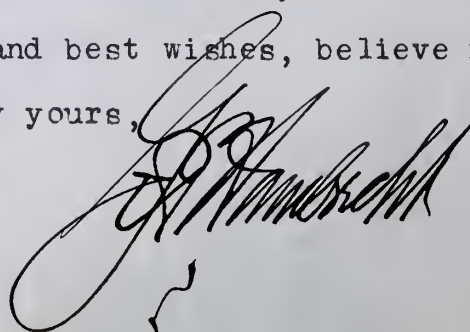
The General Wooster Harrison house has been rebuilt. Part of the old building is still intact, but its general architectural appearance is considerably modified. Bernhardt Wall desires very much to get a picture of the original Harrison house. I am trying to get this for him, but I do not know whether I will be successful.

I want to assure you that it will give me great pleasure to meet you personally, and I was pleased to know that you expect to be in Madison on April 7. I plan to be here at that time, and will be delighted to spend an evening with you and to see your film strip pictures in regard to which I wrote you some time ago. My Lincoln collection is not in very good shape for "exhibition purposes." Part of it is boxed up in the attic, part of it is down at the office, and part in my den at home. Nevertheless, I have enough material conveniently at hand to interest any student in the field of Lincoln research. I was glad to hear from you.

With kind personal regards and best wishes, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Geo. P. Hambrecht
KC



EMPLOYEE MEMBERS
A. W. MCTAGGART, SUPERIOR
PETER T. SCHOEMANN, MILWAUKEE
LOUIS HOLTHUSEN, GREEN BAY

AGRICULTURAL MEMBERS
WM. F. DETTINGER, HIXTON
R. H. LOETHER, EAU CLAIRE
H. W. GRISWOLD, WEST SALEM

EMPLOYER MEMBERS
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHEBOYGAN
HAROLD S. FALK, MILWAUKEE
JESSEL S. WHYTE, KENOSHA

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
JOHN CALLAHAN, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
MADISON
VOYTA WRABETZ, STATE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSIONER
MADISON

WISCONSIN
STATE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

GEO. P. HAMBRECHT, DIRECTOR

MADISON, WISCONSIN

PRESIDENT
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHEBOYGAN
VICE-PRESIDENT
A. W. MCTAGGART, SUPERIOR
ACTING SECRETARY
C. L. GREIBER, MADISON

STAFF ORGANIZATION
E. E. GUNN, JR., TRADES AND INDUSTRIES
W. F. FAULKES, REHABILITATION
MARGARET JOHNSTON, HOME ECONOMICS
L. M. SASMAN, AGRICULTURE
H. C. THAYER, TEACHER TRAINING
JENNIE M. TURNER, ASST. TEACHER TRAINING
E. E. GUNN, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Madison, Wisconsin,
April 11, 1931.

Dr. John B. MacHarg,
c/o Lawrence College,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

My dear Dr. MacHarg:

I was very much pleased to receive your letter of March 21, and to know that I can add another name to my rapidly growing list of friends interested in Abraham Lincoln.

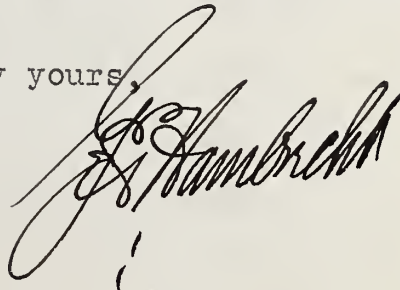
I was very much interested in the descriptive circular you sent me advertising the Five Picturols on the Life of Abraham Lincoln. I am writing the Society for Visual Education for further information concerning these pictures. I want to know whether a regular stereoptican can be used for projection purposes, or whether one must have a special lantern for the purpose.

I would like to write you more at length today, but I have but a limited time for my letter writing. I hope some time to meet you personally.

With kind regards and best wishes, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Geo. P. Hambrecht
KC



22 April 1931

George P. Hambrecht, Esq.

Director State Board of Vocational Education

Madison, Wisconsin

My dear Mr. Hambrecht:

I was sincerely pleased to receive your letter and hope that either you will come here or that some errand will call me to Madison before the College year closes and we scatter for the summer.

It would be a pleasure and a privilege which I should value to meet you and to see your splendid collection of Lincolniana. As for myself, I have just a good start, consisting principally of the standard books, most needed. I occasionally pick up something good and have a few treasures that are dear to me—my grandmother's copy of Raymond, and two choice little albums of Brady prints, which she also collected, I think.

I have visited most of the Lincoln shrines, so-called, and have several hundred negatives among which are some good pictures. Most valuable to me are my classified notes which I am trying to work into a book, although that lies in the future.

The Pictorial Life of Lincoln which I edited is fairly good for school use. There are about two hundred maps, charts, and pictures, suggesting the most important episodes of Lincoln's life. They cannot be shown well in the regular stereopticon unless it has a film-strip attachment. I presume they will have these films at the University and that you can see them there. Of course, I should be glad to show them to you here at my home, or in Madison, if I chance to come there first.

With good wishes

Cordially yours

EMPLOYEE MEMBERS
PETER T. SCHOEMANN, MILWAUKEE
LOUIS HOLTHUSEN, GREEN BAY
JOHN WIKSTRAND, SUPERIOR

AGRICULTURAL MEMBERS
WM. F. DETTINGER, HIXTON
R. H. LOETHER, EAU CLAIRE
H. W. GRISWOLD, WEST SALEM

EMPLOYER MEMBERS
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHEBOYGAN
HAROLD S. FALK, MILWAUKEE
JESSEL S. WHYTE, KENOSHA

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
JOHN CALLAHAN, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
MADISON
VOYTA WRABETZ, STATE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSIONER
MADISON

PRESIDENT
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHEBOYGAN
SECRETARY
C. L. GREIBER, MADISON

WISCONSIN STATE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

GEO. P. HAMBRECHT, DIRECTOR

MADISON, WISCONSIN

STAFF ORGANIZATION
E. E. GUNN, JR., TRADES AND INDUSTRIES
W. F. FAULKES, REHABILITATION
MARGARET JOHNSTON, HOME ECONOMICS
L. M. SASMAN, AGRICULTURE
H. C. THAYER, TEACHER TRAINING
JENNIE M. TURNER, ASST. TEACHER TRAINING
E. E. GUNN, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Madison, Wisconsin,
April 22, 1932.

Dr. John B. MacHarg,
Lawrence College,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

My dear Dr. MacHarg:

Mrs. Hambrecht and I surely enjoyed our visit with yourself and good wife the evening you stopped over at Madison. The Lincoln pictures are well chosen, and it was a real treat to see them.

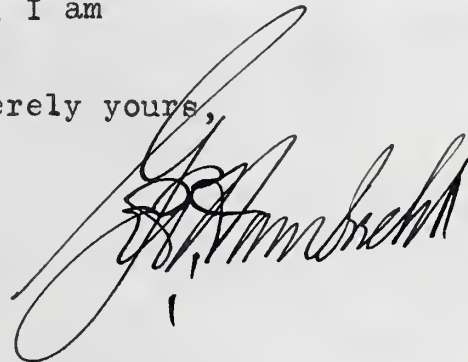
I appreciate very much the copy of letter you wrote to our good friend Wall concerning the Lincoln-Port Washington tradition. If you are able to authenticate any further conclusions concerning this matter, I will certainly be glad to hear from you. Personally, I have not gone into this matter at all although I am interested in any conclusions that may be reached.

Mrs. Hambrecht extends greetings to yourself and wife.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Geo. P. Hambrecht
KC



24 June 1932

George B. Hambrecht, Director
State Board of Vocational Education
Madison, Wis.

My dear Mr. Hambrecht :

I am wondering if W.M. Thayer's
PIONEER BOY (1863) is in your collection of the books
that Lincoln owned and read . I have it and am sure
we should all enjoy reading his comments and those of
his family upon this book . I have never run across any
record of his contact with it but feel that he must have
seen and read it. Maybe you can tell me ; I shall thank you
very much for any information you may have.

We are leaving next week for our summer place in Colorado.
I hope to have things in shape so that I can leave Thursday
and wish our route lay through Madison so that we might
have the pleasure of another visit with you and Mrs. Hambrecht.

With good wishes

Very truly yours

EMPLOYEE MEMBERS
PETER T. SCHOEMANN, MILWAUKEE
LOUIS HOLTHUSEN, GREEN BAY
JOHN WIKSTRAND, SUPERIOR

AGRICULTURAL MEMBERS
WM. F. DETTINGER, HIXTON
R. H. LOETHER, EAU CLAIRE
H. W. GRISWOLD, WEST SALEM

EMPLOYER MEMBERS
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHESOYGAN
HAROLD S. FALK, MILWAUKEE
JESSEL S. WHYTE, KENOSHA

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
JOHN CALLAHAN, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
MADISON
VOYTA WRABETZ, STATE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSIONER
MADISON

WISCONSIN

STATE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

PRESIDENT
E. W. SCHULTZ, SHESOYGAN
SECRETARY
C. L. GREIBER, MADISON

GEO. P. HAMBRECHT, DIRECTOR

MADISON, WISCONSIN

STAFF ORGANIZATION
E. E. GUNN, JR., TRADES AND INDUSTRIES
W. F. FAULKES, REHABILITATION
MARGARET JOHNSTON, HOME ECONOMICS
L. M. SASMAN, AGRICULTURE
H. C. THAYER, TEACHER TRAINING
JENNIE M. TURNER, ASST. TEACHER TRAINING
E. E. GUNN, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Madison, Wisconsin,
June 28, 1932

Professor James B. MacHarg,
Lawrence College,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

My dear Mr. MacHarg:

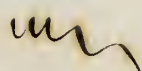
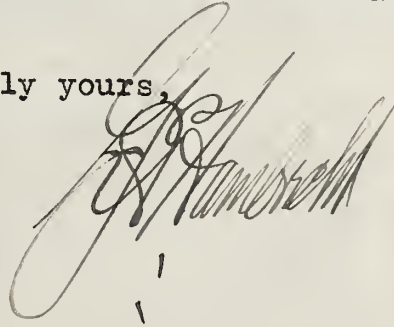
I was pleased to receive your letter of June 24, making inquiry concerning H. M. Thayer's "Pioneer Boy" (1863). I have this in my collection of association books, but my edition is 1864. I am advised that Mr. Oliver Barrett of Chicago possesses the original volume once owned by President Lincoln.

I am sure you will enjoy your vacation in Colorado. It will give you lots of time and opportunity to work in connection with your Lincoln items. Drop me a line after you arrive there. This will be appreciated.

Mrs. Hambrecht joins me in kind personal regards and best wishes to yourself and Mrs. MacHarg.

Sincerely yours,

Geo. P. Hambrecht
KC



BOLENS

GARDEN TRACTORS—POWER LAWN MOWERS

GILSON BOLENS MANUFACTURING CO.

FOUNDED IN 1850

PORT WASHINGTON, WIS., U. S. A.

May 19, 1932.

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. AGREEMENTS SUBJECT TO STRIKES, ACCIDENTS, DELAYS OF CARRIER, AND OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL.
ALL ORDERS AND CONTRACTS SOLICITED BY ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO OUR APPROVAL.

Mr. John Brainerd MacHarg,
Professor of American History,
Lawrence College,
Appleton, Wis.

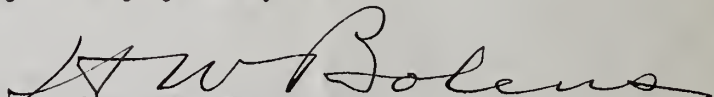
Dear Mr. MacHarg:

From Mr. Richard F. Beger, the County Superintendent of Schools of this county, I have obtained the address of his cousin, who is Willitt F. Beger, 116 North Elizabeth Street, Chicago.

Mr. Willitt F. Beger is the son of Captain Beger about whom the Lincoln stories mostly revolve.

Captain Beger died in 1884. Richard F. Beger's postoffice address is Fredonia, Wisconsin.

Very truly yours,


H. W. Bolens.

HWB:EMcF

26 May 1932

Hon. H.W.Bolens

Port Washington, Wis.

My dear Mr. Bolens:

I thank you sincerely for your kindness in remembering me and in sending the information which I desired. It will help me, I am sure, in trying to shed light on the problem of Lincoln and Port Washington.

My wife and I have spoken often of the pleasant visit we had with you and appreciate the time and attention you gave to us.

With good wishes

Very truly yours

24 June 1932

Richard F. Beger, Esq.
Fredonia
Wis.

Dear Mr. Beger :

I have become somewhat interested as a student of the life of Lincoln , in the tradition of a visit by him to Port Washington in 1835. I shall thank you very much if you will give me a little help.

If you can supply the information without trouble, I should like the full name and ~~address~~ birth and death of Capt. Beger.

If you knew him, I should like your judgment of the value of his recollection of famous conversation with Lincoln upon which is based the Port Washington story.

Did he repeat this story to you ? Did he tell it often and to many people ?

Is his home still standing in Port Washington just as it was when he lived there ?

Any other information that you may be able to give me will be most welcome. I have read all the printed records I can obtain. Most seems to depend upon what Capt. Beger said to H.W. Bolens and upon the testimony of B.J. Cigrand's recollection of what his father told him.

It would seem to me that Capt. Beger must have told his story very often but of this I have been unable to get good evidence in Port Washington.

I hope this matter may not be a trouble and I surely shall thank you sincerely for your time and attention.

Very truly yours

Port Wash -
Wis.

Fredonia, Wis, June 25/32.

Mr J. Mackay
Appleton, Wis.
Dear Sir

I have your letter in regards to
Lincoln's visit to Port Washington.

In answer I wish to say that I knew
Capt Beger, personally. I am quite sure
that I heard him give his version of
Lincoln's visit to Port Washington.

The full name of Capt Beger was
Charles F. Beger. I cannot give you the
dates of birth and death; but you ought
to be able to get this information from his
son, Willet F. Beger. 116 W. Elizabeth, St
Chicago, Ill. or from a grand son.

Adelbert F. Beger, Hinsdale, Ill.

I may add that Capt Beger was a man of
few words, taciturn, stern. I doubt if he
told the story often. for in those days the
memory of Lincoln was not popular in
Port Washington. (See draft riots). Capt Beger's
home was torn down a few years ago to make
room for the present fuelhouse, but a part

of the old Harrison tavern across the
street where Lincoln spent the night
is still standing.

Yours truly

Richard F. Beger.

28 June 1932

Richard F. Beger , Esq. .

FREDONIA , Wis.

Dear Mr. Beger :

I thank you sincerely for your very interesting and helpful letter. You have given me some valuable information.

It is very difficult to get reliable information in Port Washington: If you go there I wish you would try to solve certain difficulties. Here is one:

N.C.Peters of 304 Pier St. , born 27 June 1862 seemed to have very definite recollection of Capt. Beger and his home. I enclose a photograph of the house which he said was the Captain's. This was made last spring. He told me that the Worcester Harrison house was very much like it. If this is so, I should like to know it.

If you remember the Harrison house, I wish you would tell me on which side the wing was- right or left as you faced it. I heard nothing of the Harrison Tavern while in Port Washington. Was it the Harrison House ?

Possibly the Captain lived in two houses and the one of which I send photograph is a later residence. Mr. Bolens is certain that the Harrison house was not torn down but was moved and is the house opposite the one of which I send photograph. Others absolutely disagree.

If you have ever seen a photograph of the Harrison House I wish you would tell me when and where. These matters are not of large importance, yet Port Washington should preserve its local history and they might become significant if the visit of Lincoln to the Port in the '30's could be positively established.

I shall thank you very much if at your convenience you will write me using the envelope enclosed. I am leaving here on Thursday .

Very truly yours

THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

MILWAUKEE OFFICE

TO Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation

DATE September 20, 1933

SUBJECT

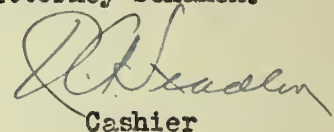
In conversation with a field superintendent of the Travelers Life Insurance Company in regard to Lincoln I was quite surprised to learn that Lincoln established his first law office in Port Washington. Although you probably are familiar with this, the information was entirely new to me.

13 — He further stated that if you are interested in obtaining additional information of Lincoln's history while residing in Port Washington that you get in touch with Attorney William F. Schanen, Port Washington, Wisconsin. This Attorney has a client by the name of Mr. Bostwich who is ninety years old and is an old settler of Port Washington, Wisconsin.

This old gentleman can recall Lincoln's life while in Port Washington and will gladly furnish any information regarding his history during his stay in that City.

I am passing this information on to you as it is very probable you would like to get in touch with Attorney Schanen.

12 — J.A.Stadler:AF


Cashier

September 26, 1933

Mr. William F. Schanen
Port Washington, Wisconsin

My dear Mr. Schanen:

We have been advised by one of our representatives at Milwaukee that you are in possession of information about Abraham Lincoln's residence at Port Washington.

This Foundation is attempting to gather all available information about Abraham Lincoln and anything that you might have to add to the Lincoln story will be very much appreciated.

This Foundation publishes a weekly bulletin which goes out to about three thousand Lincoln students each week, a copy of which is enclosed, and we would be happy to place your name on our mailing list if you would care to receive this publication. It is sent gratis.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH
Enc.

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

September 26, 1933

Mr. J. A. Stadler, Cashier
Milwaukee Office

My dear Mr. Stadler:

Thank you very much for your reference about Abraham Lincoln history relating to Fort Washington. While we have heard the tradition stated by you many times we have never seen a verification and will be pleased to write to Mr. William F. Schanen for further information about this data.

Please feel we are very appreciative of your thinking of us when hearing of this tradition.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

Lincoln Was Guest in Janesville Home



THE William Tallman residence in Janesville, a 20-room mansion in the manner of an Italian villa, which still stands in its setting of quiet dignity, gave shelter to Abraham Lincoln on the night of Oct. 1, 1859, following the Illinois statesman's addresses at the state fair in Milwaukee, Beloit and Janesville. An evening of friendly discourse was followed on Sunday morning by church attendance with the Tallman family.

Janesville Household Host to Lincoln on Speaking Trip

Old Mansion Keeps Memory

Spent Night After Talks Chatting of Black Hawk Indian Campaign Into Same Region

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL
Janesville, Wis.—Annually on Lincoln's anniversary Wisconsin communities vie in relating the Rail Splitter's visits—his trooping with Capt. Early's scouts in the Black Hawk Indian campaign, his trip to investigate the possibilities of a law practise in Port Washington, his plowing prowess and speech at the state fair in Milwaukee and talks before the Republican clubs of Beloit and Janesville.

Janesville, especially, is proud of its memory since the visit was arranged on less than a day's notice. Lincoln not only spoke here, but spent Saturday night at the Tallman house, still standing, and accompanied the Tallman family to church on Sunday morning.

Fought and Bled in State

Lincoln's first visit to Wisconsin is related in his own humorous words while a congressman from Illinois.

"Yes, I'm a military hero," the lean and lanky countryman said. "In the days of the Black Hawk war I fought and bled—and came away."

"Bled? You were in battle?" listeners queried eagerly.

"Yes sir, in a good many bloody struggles—with mosquitoes in Wisconsin!"

On Apr. 27, 1832, Lincoln, then 23, as captain of a company joined the expedition to hunt for Chief Black Hawk. This leader of the Sacs held sway from his favorite village on Rock island to Lake Superior and defied white invaders who were intruding upon this rich ranging ground. On June 30 the force of which Lincoln was a member crossed the Wisconsin territorial line at Turtle Village, the site of Beloit. The southern Wisconsin campaign led to Janesville. Storr's Lake, Milton. Lake Koshkonong, Whitewater Creek and Burnt Village, where Lincoln was mustered out on July 10, returning home by way of Peoria.

Spoke at State Fair

It was 27 years later that Lincoln again came to Wisconsin. On Friday, Sept. 30, 1859, the year following the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates, he addressed the Wisconsin State Agricultural society at its fair in Milwaukee, and the following day accepted an invitation to address the Republican club of Beloit. He was met at the railway station by a brass band and escorted in a carriage to the Bushnell House. At 2 o'clock he was

traits of Lincoln which historians like to relate. Visiting at the home, a guest of his cousin, Edgar Tallman, was a young man of 21, Lucien S. Hanks. On presenting him to Mr. Lincoln, their host said, "This is Master Hanks."

"Hanks?" repeated Mr. Lincoln. "That is a name most familiar to me!"

The young man did not know at that time to what he referred; since then, however, search has failed to discover a possible relationship between the two families.

Lucien Hanks described Lincoln as wearing a black frock coat, dark tie, black slouch hat and thick heavy boots. He recalled his carrying a carpet bag from which he later saw him take his "commodious" nightgown.

Preferred Sitting Room

Before leaving to give the scheduled address, Lincoln visited with the entire family, the members having gathered in the drawing room, which was used only on formal occasions. From his chair he could look across the spacious hallway into the "sitting room," cozy and homey. After a little the visitor summoned his courage to ask if they might not use the "sitting room."

Lincoln spoke that evening in Young America hall in the Myers building, and returned to the Tallman home to spend the night. The

host and his guest sat up discussing the current topics and abolition particularly; Tallman also being a strong abolitionist. Some time during the evening Mr. Lincoln evidently overheard Mrs. Tallman suggest to Lucien Hanks that he sleep on the sofa, for when he was about to retire Lincoln invited the young man to share his bed.

Was Poor Bedfellow

The invitation was gladly accepted, but Lincoln proved to be a poor bedfellow, for after he had fallen asleep, his body jerked and twitched and his long legs thrashed about, striking his young companion. The young man decided that the day's two speeches or that his conversation with Tallman just before retiring had made him nervous. At any rate Lucien Hanks could stand it no longer and slipped quietly out of bed to use the sofa for the remainder of the night.

The bed in which Lincoln slept that night was of rosewood. It is today in the possession of Charles Tallman, grandson of William Tallman, at his home, 430 N. Jackson st., Janesville, a marvel of beauty and simplicity and in wonderful condition.

Lincoln attended the Congregational church with the Tallman family.

taken to Hanchett's hall, where he presented the political issues of the day in a masterful manner that woke hearty cheers. A marker in downtown Beloit designates the place where the address was given.

The Republican club of Janesville, learning on the morning of Saturday that Lincoln was to deliver an address in Beloit in the afternoon, decided to ask him to speak to the Republicans of Janesville that evening. Several had heard the debate between Lincoln and Douglas at Freeport in August, 1858. Lincoln accepted the invitation and drove to Janesville over what is known as the prairie or town line road. This road runs near the trail followed by Black Hawk and the army of which Lincoln had been a member in 1832, and he recognized it as the route, talking freely about it to his companions, A. A. Jackson, secretary of the Janesville Republican club, Daniel Wilcox, publisher of the Gazette, and J. H. Burgess.

Hanks a Familiar Name

Lincoln was taken to the home of William Tallman, a 20-room Italian villa completed but two years before. Here Lincoln was entertained until Monday morning, when he left for his home in Illinois.

His stay at the Tallman home brought out some of the human

LINCOLN VISITS HERE REVIVED IN MEMORY

Emancipator Honored by
Pupils, Civic Groups
and in Churches.

Milwaukee, with its own memories of Abraham Lincoln, today joined with the rest of the nation in observing the 125th anniversary of his birth.

While to most people the name of Lincoln has become a venerated tradition, there are a few Milwaukeeans who well remember Lincoln as a friendly, ordinary sort of man who visited here on several occasions.

They remember when he was a guest at Milwaukee's old Kirby house; when he spoke at the state fair grounds, now the heart of Milwaukee's West Side; when he planned to hang out his "shingle" at nearby Port Washington.

AT SOLDIERS' HOME.

Three veterans at the National Soldiers' home today talked over the times they had seen and heard Lincoln. They are Frank C. Small, 89; August W. Jonas, 91, and Frank Neumann, 86. Each had his own story of the great man.

Programs honoring Lincoln were given today in Milwaukee's schools, where his life and accomplishments were told to the accompaniment of patriotic recitations and music.

Prof. O. L. Trenary, Kenosha, addressed students at the South Milwaukee High school today. A musical program was presented at the Bay View High school with Margaret Diefenthaeler and Roland Dittle duo pianists.

SCOUTS JOIN.

Boy Scouts will honor Lincoln tonight, as will Legion posts and fraternal groups.

One of the largest celebrations will be by the Knights of Columbus tonight in their auditorium, opening with a reception and dinner.

Honor guests will be Gov. A. G. Schmedeman and Leo T. Crowley, new chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance corporation. J. Gilbert Hardgrove will be toastmaster.

The memory of Lincoln was honored in Milwaukee churches yesterday.

A public celebration honoring both Lincoln and Washington will be held by Civil war veterans at 2 p. m. Saturday at G. A. R. Memorial hall. The principal speaker will be Atty. Frank L. Fawcett.

LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor.
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

No. 267

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

May 21, 1934

LINCOLN IN WISCONSIN

A Wisconsin newspaper published in 1859 gives us one of the best early word portraits of Abraham Lincoln appearing in print. After having seen and heard Lincoln, the editor of *The Wisconsin Pinery* which was published at Stevens Point, under the caption "Old Abe," made the following observations:

"He looks as if he was made for wading in deep water. The women say he is homely,—I say he is handsome. He has a long nose, a wrinkled, clean-shaven face, large dark eyes, black eye-brows, a forehead that juts over his eyes like a cornice, long and full, sloping up into a wealth of black hair. He looks like an open-hearted, honest man who has grown sharp in fighting knaves. His face is swarthy and filled with very deep, long thought-wrinkles. He inspires confidence. His hearers feel sure that he will not lead them astray, or fail to make a point if he attempts to. I think he is very much like Clay, without the light complexion and fiery enthusiasm. His voice is not heavy, but has a clear trumpet tone that can be heard an immense distance."

This description was inspired by Lincoln's last visit to Wisconsin, although once and possibly twice before he had been within the boundaries of the state.*

Whitewater—1832

Abraham Lincoln's first visit to Wisconsin occurred when he was a member of a mounted company in the Black Hawk War known as an independent spy company. This was in 1832, and Lincoln was but twenty-three years of age. He crossed the state line near Beloit on June 30th, proceeded north, and was mustered out at a point near what is now Whitewater, Wisconsin, on July 10th.

The extent of this first visit to the state was about two weeks, and its climax must have been very disconcerting to Lincoln, as an incident which occurred at that time was indirectly responsible for his first and only political defeat at the hands of the people.

Lincoln, at the time he was mustered out, was a candidate for the Legislature of Illinois, and he intended to rise early the next morning, mount his horse, and hurry back to New Salem to put in a few days campaigning. When he awoke, however, he found someone had stolen his horse. The necessity of having to walk the three hundred miles, or most of it, back to New Salem so delayed him that he had little opportunity to present his political claims to the people, with the consequence that he was not elected.

Milwaukee, State Fair—1859

The occasion for Lincoln's visit to Wisconsin in 1859 was an address at the annual exhibition of the Wisconsin Agricultural Society. He arrived in Milwaukee on Thursday, September 29th, and spoke the following morning. The official report of the society printed this paragraph in its minutes:

"The Annual Address before the Society was delivered by the Hon. Abram Lincoln of Illinois, on Friday the 30th inst., at 11 o'clock and was universally regarded as a highly instructive and valuable production."

The complete address is printed in the transactions of the society, and many statements appearing in this speech are included among the best known Lincoln sayings. A few excerpts from the address follow:

"To correct the evils, great and small, which spring from want of sympathy and from positive enmity among strangers, as nations or as individuals, is one of the highest functions of civilization."

"Constituted as man is, he has positive need of occasional recreation, and whatever can give him this associated with virtue and advantage, and free from vice and disadvantage, is a positive good."

"I presume I am not expected to employ the time assigned me in the mere flattery of the farmers as a class. My opinion of them is that, in proportion to numbers, they are neither better nor worse than other people."

"The effect of thorough cultivation, upon the farmer's own mind, and in reaction through his mind back upon his business, is perhaps quite equal to any other of its effects. Every man is proud of what he does well, and no man is proud of that he does not well."

"I have not pointed out difficulties in order to discourage, but in order that, being seen, they may be the more readily overcome."

"They hold that labor is prior to, and independent of, capital; that, in fact, capital is the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed; that labor can exist without capital, but that capital could never have existed without labor."

"The prudent, penniless beginner in the world labors for wages awhile, saves a surplus with which to buy tools or land for himself, then labors on his own account another while, and at length hires another new beginner to help him."

"Every blade of grass is a study; and to produce two where there was but one is both a profit and a pleasure."

Milwaukee, Newhall House—1859

While Lincoln's primary object in the Wisconsin visit was to speak at the State Fair, his political friends succeeded in persuading him to make an address on current events. On the evening of the same day he appeared at the fair, he addressed a group of people at the Newhall House. As far as can be learned, no fragments of this speech are available.

Beloit—1859

The day following the Milwaukee address, Abraham Lincoln was scheduled for a speech of a political nature at Beloit. The open air meeting which had been planned at 2 p. m. was made impossible by stormy weather, and the assembly gathered in Hanchett's Hall.

It is not likely that Lincoln used any manuscript on this occasion, and the remarks he made are only available in the words of the reporter who covered the meeting. It would seem from the digest of the speech appearing in the *Beloit Journal* that most of the address dealt with the slavery question. He is quoted as having said on this occasion "The Republican Party's underlying principle is hatred to the institution of slavery; hatred to it in all its aspects; moral, social and political." He closed with an eloquent appeal used with great effect by Henry Clay.

Janesville—1859

Another point touched on Lincoln's Wisconsin trip in 1859 was Janesville. On the evening of the same day he spoke at Beloit, he addressed a group at Janesville. It is evident from the brief digest made by the papers that his remarks were much the same as those made at Beloit. He spoke for an hour and a half.

This trip to Wisconsin in 1859 has had a strange aftermath. The manuscript which Lincoln used at the State Fair was given by Lincoln to the press and in turn the reporter distributed separate papers of it to friends. Consequently, it was scattered the length and breadth of the state. Because of the unique character of the text, each page is very valuable, and one discovering a page should be careful to preserve it.

*There is a tradition that Lincoln was in Wisconsin in the Fall of 1835, visiting Milwaukee, Sheboygan, and Port Washington. At the latter place he is said to have stopped two days and considered settling there. More definite evidence is needed, however, to include the points touched on this traditional itinerary among the places Lincoln visited in Wisconsin.

Lincoln's 'Mad' Couch Used in Wisconsin Hotel

Special Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERLIN, Wis., July 29.—Abraham Lincoln's "mad" couch is still in daily use at the Maplewood Hotel here as a piece of lobby furniture. The couch is six feet six inches long and Abe Lincoln had it made for his office to provide a place to sleep on those occasions of slight domestic infelicity which occur in all families. He needed the length for his long body.

The couch was left in charge of General Brayman, a close friend, and when President Lincoln did not return to Springfield the Brayman family brought the couch to Wisconsin when they moved here. Later it was given to Dr. Victor Kutchin, the present owner.

Lincoln Gave \$100 Fee To Speak At Wisconsin State Fair In 1859

(Editor's note: The anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth makes pertinent his visits in Wisconsin. From historical records, the writer has assembled the main facts of these few visits.)

By G. C. ELLIS

Although Abraham Lincoln spent most of his adult years in the adjoining state of Illinois, his visits within the present bounds of Wisconsin were three in number. The first two, in 1832 and 1835, were in what was then the territory of Michigan. At the time of his last visit, 1859, Wisconsin had become a state. In 1832 Lincoln was still a resident of New Salem, and while he had already evinced an interest in politics, he had not begun in earnest the study of law, the work which later was to take up the major part of his attention.

In April of 1832 the settlers between the Illinois and Rock rivers began to suffer from Indian depredations. In 1804 the Indians had ceded this region to the government, with the understanding they were to have the use of the land to raise their crops until said land was needed for settlers. In 1831 Black Hawk signed another treaty, promising not to cross to the east side of the Mississippi without the consent of the governor of the state or the president. This agreement the Indians broke the next year. Governor Reynolds of Illinois, issued a call for 700 volunteers and 1,500 responded. Lincoln, then 23 years old, was one of the first to offer his services. He was out of a job and anxious for something to do. The recruits gathered at Beardstown, where they were organized and chose their officers. Lincoln was one of the two candidates for captain of the company from his neighborhood. The followers of each contestant lined up behind their leader, and as Lincoln's line was twice as long as the other, he was declared elected.

Not a Military Man

These volunteers were all horsemen and familiar with firearms. They were of hardy pioneer stock and capable of "living off the country." Lincoln was popular with his men, but knew little of military affairs. The fact is illustrated by one occasion when Captain Lincoln wished to deploy his company

through a gate in a fence. Not being familiar with the customary orders, he shouted:

"The company is dismissed for two minutes, after which it will fall in again on the other side of the gate!"

Being duly organized, the volunteers proceeded north toward Rock Island, thence up the Rock river valley to Dixon's Ferry, now Dixon. Here they were sworn into the United States service. From Dixon they marched to Ottawa, Ill., at which point they were mustered out, their term of enlistment having expired. While it is true they had encountered no Indians, they had had plenty of experience in fording swollen streams and wading through marshes. Most of them had farm work awaiting them at home. Not having any work at home, young Lincoln heeded the call of Governor Reynolds and reenlisted for another 20 days, this time as a private in a company of independent rangers. He furnished his own arms, valued at \$40, and horse and equipment, valued at \$120. At the end of that 20 days, he enlisted again in another spy company under Captain Jacob M. Early. This company was a part of General Whiteside's forces, which were advancing up the east bank of the Rock. Among these forces was a battalion of over 300 mounted men under Major Isiah Stillman. At this time Whiteside's army was again at Dixon's Ferry. It was reported that Black Hawk was a few miles north and Stillman was anxious to engage the Indians in battle. Permission having been given, Stillman proceeded north about 12 miles and went into camp at what is now Stillman's Run. By this time Black Hawk was becoming much discouraged, and the expected help from the British and from friendly Indians not having materialized, would have been glad to retreat beyond the Father of Waters.

Calls For Truce

Hearing of Stillman's proximity, the savage chief resolved to open negotiations with that officer. To that end he sent three emissaries under a flag of truce, with five other braves at a distance as observers, to the Stillman camp. The soldiers rushed the first three Indians into camp, and pursued the other five, killing two of them. The three who escaped reported that they were the only survivors. Under the circumstances, it is not surprising that Black Hawk rallied his braves for a campaign of revenge. He met the far superior forces of Stillman from ambush and was surprised to see them retreat. This retreat turned into a panic, the soldiers running through their camp without stopping, and did not halt until they finally straggled into the camp at Dixon. This debacle put new life into the Indian resistance.

and burning the cabins of the scattered settlers, but was keeping out of the way of the soldiers. The scouts were busy clearing the country of skulking savages ahead of the marching army. As they continued their patrol of the valley of the Rock, they passed what is now known as Black Hawk's Grove, where the Indian women and children had recently camped. But these families of the savages were now hurrying westward in an effort to reach the Mississippi. The scouts also covered the region around Lake Koshkonong and the former Indian stronghold called Black Hawk's Island in that lake.

Lincoln's Horse Stolen

As the Indian resistance seemed broken, it was decided that the army could be reduced, and the Illinois volunteers were mustered out. Lincoln had scouted for ten days over what is now one of the most prosperous agricultural sections of the state. He started for his home in New Salem on horseback, but when he was in the vicinity of what is now Whitewater, his horse was stolen. Nothing daunted, he proceeded on foot to Peoria, this tedium being occasionally relieved by some more fortunate fellow traveler, through means of the old frontier device of "ride and tie."

At Peoria he secured a boat and rowed down the Illinois river.

When Lincoln was a Whig member of the house of representatives, in the year 1848, Lewis Cass was a candidate for president, and a good deal was being made of the latter's brief military career. To bring this career down to its proper proportions, Lincoln compared it to his own war experience in the following speech:

"By the way, Mr. Speaker, did you know of my military heroism? Yes, sir, in the days of the Black Hawk war I fought, bled and came away. Speaking of General Cass' career reminds me of my own. I was not at Stillman's defeat, but I was about as near as Cass was to Hull's surrender, and, like him, I saw the place soon afterward. It is quite certain I did not break my sword, for I had none to break, but I bent my musket pretty badly on one occasion."

Ann Rutledge's Death

Lincoln's next visit to this region was in the fall of 1835, the year before the territory of Wisconsin was organized. The tragedy which nearly wrecked Lincoln's life and placed a stamp of melancholy upon his character, was probably the indirect cause of this trip into the wilderness. This tragedy was the death, Aug. 25, 1835, of his fiancée, Ann Rutledge. Some one has called it "that strange, lovely, heroic, pathetic story which so many have tried to tell, but which still awaits the touch of a master hand." For a long time after this

Whiteside's army proceeded up the Rock river, and on June 30 crossed the territorial line at Turtle Village, about a mile east of the present city of Beloit. Of course, all the region now in Wisconsin passed over in the pursuit of Black Hawk, was wilderness in 1832. Lincoln, being with a spy company, no doubt covered much more of the country than the soldiers in the main body of the troops. Black Hawk was pillaging

event, Lincoln was beside himself. He "sorrowed and grieved, rambled over the hills and through the forests day and night." His friends advised him to quit his home and business and get away from the scenes of his sorrow.

The Black Hawk war had called attention to the region now known as Wisconsin. Not only the lead mines, but other parts, especially along Lake Michigan, were receiving an influx of settlers. It is not known for certain how Lincoln reached Milwaukee, but he probably walked from Chicago.

From Milwaukee, he walked to Sheboygan, passing through Port Washington, both going and coming. He was favorably impressed with the prospects and advantages of the latter place, and liked the people he met there. The first building in the town had just been completed at this time. It was a story and a half house, erected without foundation and containing four rooms. Lincoln made a bargain with the owner of the building, General Wooster Harrison, for a room in which to open a law office the next spring. General Harrison, himself a new arrival, seems to have been a man of parts, what we would call a "good mixer," and probably had considerable to do with causing the young lawyer to choose Port Washington as a future field for his endeavors. But the following spring brought the worst floods that section had seen for many seasons and Lincoln could not return to Port Washington, and was obliged to send his regrets to General Harrison. Was the hand of Providence in this peculiar combination of events? What difference would this settling in Port Washington have made on his history and the history of his country?

Badger Fair Speaker

By 1859, the Lincoln-Douglas debates and other speeches had spread Lincoln's reputation as an orator to the nearby states, and the officers of the Wisconsin State Fair engaged him for the sum of \$100 to make the principal address at the exposition. The day, Sept. 30, was cold and windy, the speech was somewhat delayed and the crowd slim. As he stated in his speech, the crowd was

probably more interested in the next event, the awarding of premiums. The papers gave him little comment, but the Milwaukee Sentinel printed his speech in full. This was the only address by Lincoln on an agricultural subject of which there is any record. It was a well prepared address, full of logic, and marked by the prophetic strain which seemed to be a part of his character. He discussed the advantages of fairs, the relation of capital and labor, the importance of improved agriculture and improved machinery, and said, "No other human occupation opens so wide a field for the profitable and agreeable combination of labor with cultivated thought, as agriculture."

A reporter for the "Wisconsin Pinery" of Stevens Point, gave this description of the speaker:

"'Old Abe' Lincoln delivered a short address, which he had nicely written out, and folded in the Wisconsin, and tucked under his left arm, when I first saw him. His heart and other internal arrangements are a long way from his head. He looks as if he was made for wading in deep water. The women say he is homely—I say he is handsome. He has a long nose, a wrinkled, clean shaven face, large, dark eyebrows, a forehead that juts over his eyes like a cornice, long and full, sloping up into a wealth of black hair. He looks like an open-hearted, honest man, who has grown sharp in fighting knaves. His face is swarthy and filled with very deep, long thought wrinkles. He inspires confidence. His hearers feel sure he will not lead them astray, or fail to make a point if he attempts it. . . . His voice is not heavy, but has a clean, trumpet tone that can be heard at an immense distance. The address was a short Lincolnism. . . . It did not please everybody, I suppose, and therefore it was something positively good."

Discusses Slavery

The state fair speech contained no word of politics, but later in the day, Lincoln gathered at the Newhall House with a large number of anti-slavery men, for a conference. After a good deal of general talk, the distinguished visitor was asked to make a speech, and from a wooden box brought in for the occasion, "cut loose" for three quarters of an hour, to the delight of his friends. Little mention of this speech was made in the papers. The next day, Saturday, Lincoln made a political speech in Beloit in the afternoon. An enthusiastic follower living in Janesville, hearing of the Beloit meeting, drove to the latter city and induced the speaker to include Janesville in his itinerary. The drive to Janesville was over part of the route covered by Lincoln in the Black Hawk war, and he was able to recognize many points along the way. He spoke in Janesville Saturday evening, and also spent Sunday there.

The next year brought to Lincoln a train of absorbing responsibilities which gave him no respite until his assassination in 1865.

Armory Fire Causes Loss Of \$12,500

Carr's Grocery Damage Is
\$3,500; Hub Clothing
Company \$5,000

Damage to Building Esti-
mated at \$4,000; Was

Scene of Lincoln Talk

Select was 3-14-38

Fire which started in a defective place in a lounge room in the armory building at State and Broad streets, early today, gutted a part of the structure and damaged much stock and merchandise in two stores in the first floor. The loss was estimated at \$12,500.

The building, owned by Harold M. Rosenblatt, who operated the Hub clothing store, and Mrs. Julius Stone, was valued at \$56,135. Damage to the building, according to Fire Chief Elmer Fairbert, was approximately \$4,000.

Makes Tentative Estimates

The loss of clothing and stock in the Hub store had not been estimated, Chief Fairbert said, and the damage to produce, meats and food stuffs in the Carr store had not been determined. Tentatively, he placed the loss at \$5,000 at the Hub store, and \$3,500 at Carr's grocery.

Members of Company L had been in the armory in the afternoon and evening, Chief Fairbert said, and a coke fire had been built in the fireplace, which was located in the second floor near the front and center of the building. He believed the blaze started two or three hours before it was discovered.

The fire department was called at 3:18 a. m. The blaze had spread in partitions and under floor boards in the second story. A metal ceiling in the first floor confined both fire and heat to the second story and flames traveled from the front to the center rather than upwards to the third floor.

Was Difficult to Combat

"Because of the old type of structure and dense clouds of smoke in the first and second stories, it was one of the most difficult jobs we have had in some time," Chief Fairbert declared. "The fire was under control and it was reported out at 5:50 a. m."

While the metal ceiling probably prevented more rapid spreading of the fire, it made the job of putting it out difficult. Firemen were required to cut through the metal near the front of the second floor. Because of dense smoke in the Hub and Carr stores, for a time they did not know whether or not the blaze had got into those sections.

Lt. Sheehan, Wis., Pres. June 21, 1937

House Lincoln Visited At Port



One hundred and two years ago Abraham Lincoln stepped off a trading schooner to a crude wharf at the village known then as Wisconsin City, now called Port Washington, ^{W.}_{s.} He strolled up to General Wooster Harrison, founder of the village, and asked if he could find a place to stay a few nights, explaining that he was in search of a spot to start practicing law. General Harrison put the young lawyer up at his own house, shown above, but Lincoln, disappointed, though attracted to the community, took the next schooner back south, settling again in Illinois. This was his second visit to Wisconsin after Ann Rutledge's death. The house, which has been remodeled, originally stood on Main street, but was removed to its present site across from the fire engine house in 1907. A placque, telling all who read it of Lincoln's visit, has been placed on the house. It replaces one destroyed by vandals years ago.

City's Not Alone in False Claims but Lincoln Didn't Visit Here

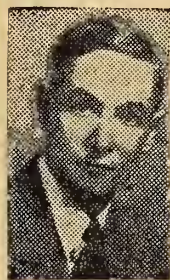
By LOUIS W. BRIDGMAN
(Secretary, Lincoln Fellowship
of Wisconsin)

Legend has surrounded the Lincoln name to a degree hardly equalled with respect to any other historical figure on this side of the Atlantic.

In the area of the mythical Lincoln (and books have been written on this phase alone), no inhibitions appear to have restrained imaginative minds from extravagant assertions not sustained by facts. Not unknown are quotations ascribed to Lincoln which, investigated, are found to be spurious.

City, State, Too

Madison and other Wisconsin cities have figured in the mythical side of the saga, pertaining to claims that Lincoln once visited their communities (in addition to three cities in the state well entitled to that honor).



BRIDGMAN

In life of more than a century, Wisconsin's capital and university probably has known the presence of more of the world's great than has any other American city of equal size.

But this distinction fails to extend to Abraham Lincoln—one of our two greatest Americans.

This is not as a pride taking people would wish it to be. Yet truth demands that one should not lay title to any honor not owing.

No Proof Found

There is nothing in the chronicle of Lincoln's amazing career to show that he ever visited Madison in either the village or the city epoch, that he came nearer than 40 miles (except when marching northward into Wisconsin, as a young man, in an abortive Indian chase), or that he honored certain other Wisconsin communities where claims have been made in print or otherwise.

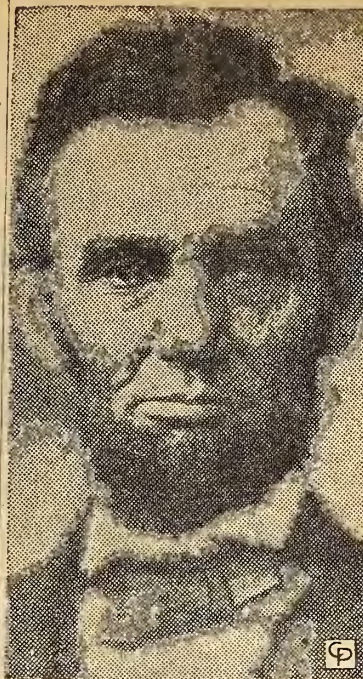
Down through the years, in Madison, various averments have appeared—without qualification—that Lincoln once "spoke here," or "stayed over night" in a certain house or edifice in the Wisconsin capital.

Thus Lincoln is reputed to have spent a night in a house on Madison's W. Wilson st. near the square.

A similar claim has been made for the former Executive mansion on E. Gilman street, once the home of the violinist Ole Bull, now the official home of the graduate school of the University of Wisconsin.

It has been reported also (but with a minimum of assurance) that Lincoln spoke in the variously occupied edifice now used by the Church of Christ at 214 W. Washington ave.

Had he visited Madison, it is inevitable that his purpose would



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

have been a matter of widely accepted knowledge—lending a distinction forever to be associated with the city.

Was it for an address, a lawsuit, a visit to a friend?

Instead, the claim is confined wholly to the sphere of the legendary.

Was Wanted

But that Lincoln was wanted here is apparently established.

The late Albert O. Barton, a Lincoln student and well-qualified historian, once wrote that Lincoln had been invited to visit Madison.

In the words of Mr. Barton:

"When Lincoln was in Milwaukee in 1859 to speak at the state fair, David Atwood, editor of The Wisconsin State Journal, called on him at the ill-fated Newhall house to invite him to come to Madison for an address.

"When Atwood asked the hotel clerk if Lincoln was in, the clerk said he was, and pointed to the door of a washroom at the back of the office.

"When Mr. Atwood went in, he found a tall man stooped over a washbowl, coat and vest off and galluses hanging down. He was in the act of a vigorous wash.

"Is this Mr. Lincoln?" asked Mr. Atwood.

"The tall, stooped figure did not raise up. Instead, it bent further down and looked at the caller between his arm and side and admitted he was the man sought.

"Unfortunately," said Mr. Atwood, long afterward, "Lincoln was unable to come, and so never visited Madison as far as is known."

Other Cities, Too

Other Wisconsin cities linked mythically with Lincoln have crowded for printer's space.

A Delavan story related that Lincoln "once stayed in a home at

63 Walworth avenue," in Delavan. Another account had Lincoln visiting Fond du Lac.

A Milwaukee man who died in April, 1950, at the age of 96, insisted that he shook hands with Lincoln and received a friendly greeting "while walking down a Racine street as a lad of 10."

Lincoln is also reputed to have visited Racine just before leaving for his Cooper Union speech in New York in February, 1860.

A news story concerning the Wade House at Greenbush, Sheboygan county, soon to be controlled by the Wisconsin Historical society, contained the comment, "Legend has it that Lincoln was a Wade House visitor, but the report has no authenticity."

There is a legendary story that Lincoln once journeyed to Weyauwega, in Waupaca county, and again to Columbia county as a guest of W. H. Kerfoot, a Chicago attorney, who owned a country estate near the Wisconsin Dells.

The Weyauwega story was investigated by the late Prof. Julius E. Olson, of the University of Wisconsin, with results not known to this writer.

The late George P. Hambrecht delved into the reported Kerfoot visit, with findings equally indefinite.

One Disputed Claim

Best advertised of all disputed claims of Lincoln's visits to the state is one which insisted that, probably in 1835, he traveled to Sheboygan and Port Washington (on foot much of the way) with the intention of opening a law office in Port Washington.

Considerable circumstantial evidence was derived in support. All of it rested on verbay statements of persons who "assembled they saw or met him in Port Washington.

Among the strong proponents of the Port Washington thesis were several prominent Wisconsin men, now deceased—George P. Hambrecht, Julius E. Olson, William George Bruce, and Sen. Harry W. Bolens.

Prof. Olson conjectured that Lincoln made the Port Washington trip in October, 1835, in consequence of "the great tragedy of his life, the death of Ann Rutledge in 1835," which led him to "seek surcease of his great grief by a visit to the wilds of the territory of Wisconsin, and even thought of making his home there."

Two Visits Sure

Known definitely, of course, are two Wisconsin visits, in one of which Lincoln made speeches in three cities.

First of his trips into Wisconsin was in 1832 when, as a soldier in the Blackhawk War, he entered the territory at Turtle (present site of Beloit), passed Lake Koshkonong and Fort Atkinson, and camped near the present White-water, where he left the command and returned by canoe and afoot to his New Salem, Ill., home to campaign for the legislature.

Twenty-seven years later Lin-

coln visited the Wisconsin state fair at Milwaukee and delivered the only address he ever gave on agriculture.

The next day, Oct. 1, 1859, he made political speeches at Beloit and Janesville. Each of these memorable events has been treated at length in historical bulletins published by the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin, which are available to collectors.

Other Beloit Claim

Beloit accounts have said that Lincoln went to Beloit a second time, in 1854, to try the locally celebrated "Fisher case," a land suit that threatened to place the town's public landing place on the Rock river in private hands.

This claim stemmed from knowledge that, with Judge Daniel Cady of New York and U. S. Sen. James Doolittle of Racine, he appeared as the people's counsel in the litigation.

The plaintiff Emigrant company was represented by Judge Edward G. Ryan, Milwaukee, later a justice of the Wisconsin supreme court, and the renowned Rufus Choate, of Boston.

Lincoln's part in the case was to write the brief. The courts found for the defendant.

In weighing the authenticity of this Beloit visit, and others, one might well place a good deal of reliance on the authoritative "day by day" chronicle of Lincoln's activities as prepared in three vol-

umes by as many noted biographers — Paul M. Angle, Harry E. Pratt, and Benjamin P. Thomas.

These experts in Lincolnia recorded Lincoln's activities, through access to all available written, official, and other sources of reliable information covering every day from Feb. 12, 1809, down to 1861.

In the chronicles of the period 1854 to 1861, compiled by Angle, no record is found concerning a Beloit visit in 1854.

Another Beloit account also has asserted that during his series of debates with Stephen A. Douglas in Beloit, Lincoln stopped off in Beloit again on his way to the engagement in Freeport.

"Lincoln Day by Day" makes no reference to such a stopover. Instead, it records that on Aug. 26, 1858, he was at Macomb and Amboy, Ill., the day before the Freeport debate of the 27th.

Further, "Day by Day" contains no reference whatever to Sheboygan, or Port Washington, nor to Fond du Lac.

Nor is Racine on the preferred list so far as the man Lincoln is concerned.

Other Errors

(A recent national periodical asserted that Abraham Lincoln stayed at the Equinox hotel in Manchester, Vt., "for several summers.")

(Actually, according to the "day by day" chronicles, the president never was within the borders of the Green Mountain state, although his son, Robert T. Lincoln, maintained a summer home at Manchester.

That he summered in New England is preposterous in view of the fact that, from New Salem days in the 1830s until he went to Washington in 1861, he spent his summers in Springfield in vacationless professional pursuits, as legislator and lawyer, in preparation for his future magnificent destiny.)

Here's Conclusion

The consensus must be that only three Wisconsin cities—Milwaukee, Beloit and Janesville—have indisputable right to say "they knew Lincoln."

One is on safe ground, however, in asserting that Mary Todd Lincoln visited Madison, Racine, Waukesha, if not other Wisconsin communities.

First is a record that Mrs. Lincoln, widowed four years, spent part of the 1869 summer, with young Tad, at Congress Hall (a

hotel), in Racine, and that she was often seen in East park on the Lake Michigan shore. On June 30, 1869, in Racine, Mrs. Lincoln wrote a letter to a friend, describing her mental anguish and her prospects for inner peace.

"After all," she confided, "without my all in life, my dearly beloved husband, why should I seek to find a home? The ever vacant chair is always there and I can not have a settled feeling where none exists in my heart. Alas! Alas! How everything has changed."

The letter was printed in the Racine Journal-Times of June 8, 1942.

Visited Here Too

There are authenticated accounts, also, of Mrs. Lincoln's presence in Madison, briefly, in 1872, and in Waukesha, a spa then widely patronized. In each city it was reported she was "in search of health."

Mary Lincoln's visits to Madison and Waukesha have been treated fully by the Wisconsin Historical society's Lillian Krueger, writing in the Wisconsin Magazine of History, June, 1941.

Files of The Wisconsin State Journal for Aug. 24, 1872, were cited to show that Mrs. Lincoln arrived at the Park hotel in Madison from Baraboo after (it was assumed) she had toured the picturesque Devils lake region.

The information about Mrs. Lincoln's Madison visit as recounted and documented by Miss Krueger came generally as a surprise to the reading public, and received wide recognition.

Miss Krueger's thoroughgoing recital of this phase of the Wisconsin narrative should carry its own clear assurance that here at least, all doubts are effectively removed.

Abe Lincoln's Granddaughter Eloped to City 54 Years Ago

Families of presidential hopefuls have been frequent Milwaukee visitors recently, but it was a former president's granddaughter who captured the public eye by eloping to Milwaukee 54 years ago.

Old Milwaukee Journal clippings tell the story.

Abraham Lincoln's granddaughter, Jessie, 22, last surviving descendant born to the name Lincoln, stepped off a train from Chicago on the afternoon of Nov. 10, 1897, with Warren W. Beckwith, 24, son of a wealthy Iowa businessman. They hired a hack driven by Rudolph Klug and drove to the home of the Rev. O. P. Christian, pastor of the Sherman Street Methodist church. The minister did not know until after the brief ceremony that he had married a "runaway couple."

The marriage, which began so romantically, lasted 10 years. The couple's two children are Miss Mary Lincoln Beckwith, 53, Manchester, Vt., and Robert Todd Lin-

coln Beckwith, 47, Washington, D. C. The only other living direct descendant of Abraham Lincoln is Lincoln Isham, 49, of New York and Dorset, Vt., son of Jessie's oldest sister, Mary.

Jessie remarried twice after the divorce. She died Jan. 4, 1948, at Bennington, Vt. Beckwith and his third wife live at La Jolla, Calif.

Went to a Hotel

News of the 1897 elopement was out by the time Beckwith and his bride registered at the Plankinton hotel after the ceremony. They had paid in advance for dinner and supper in their room. Hotel employees spoke of their desire to avoid being seen. A waiter sent to the room later in the afternoon found the door open and room empty. The bride and bridegroom had left.

The Journal on the following day devoted more than a column on the front page to the wedding. When Mr. Christian found that the "beautiful young lady with the

sparkling eyes" was the daughter of Robert Todd Lincoln, he "became very interested but didn't ask any more questions than those required to make the marriage legal," the story said. His wife and Mrs. Henry J. Baumgaertner, wife of the common council president, were witnesses.

Robert Todd Lincoln, once secretary of war and minister to Great Britain, told The Journal the next day that he disapproved of the match.

Husband a Football Star

Jessie, a society belle, had met Warren, an Iowa Wesleyan college football star, when she was visiting at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, her mother's and the Beckwiths' home town.

After the marriage, Beckwith and his bride parted at her door when they returned to Chicago. Eastern papers reported that she joined him at Mount Pleasant five days later and on Nov. 18 watched him "battle for the glory of Iowa Wesleyan" on the football field.

Beckwith won an uncontested divorce in 1907. Jessie married Frank E. Johnson and divorced him in 1925. In 1926 she married Robert J. Randolph, now 77, of New York.

Milwaukee Journal, April 24, 1952

Eloped, Wed Here in 1897, Lincoln Granddaughter Dies

Fifty years after her Milwaukee elopement sent gay nineties hearts a-fluttering, Mrs. Jessie Lincoln Randolph, Abraham Lincoln's granddaughter, died in a Bennington (Vt.) hospital. Her death was reported Monday in Washington.

Jessie, one of two daughters of Robert Todd Lincoln, grew up in a bright social whirl. She was for a time a part of the society of London, where her father was ambassador at the court of St. James.

But it was at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, her mother's home town, that she fell in love. There she met Warren W. Beckwith, the son of a wealthy Iowa businessman. When her parents opposed the romance, the couple became secretly engaged.

As Robert Todd Lincoln said later, the parents "broke off the attachment, separated the young people and thought that settled it." But Jessie, then 22, and Beckwith, nearly 15 years her senior, were not to be dissuaded.

Married in Milwaukee

They made plans for a secret marriage. Her relatives got wind of it and spirited her off to Chicago. Beckwith followed, and on Nov. 10, 1897, he and Jessie climbed off a train in Milwaukee.

They hired a hack driven by Rudolph Klug, employed by M. Hilgen-dorf & Brothers, and drove to the home of the Rev. O. P. Christian, pastor of the Sherman Street Methodist church. At a ceremony witnessed only by the pastor, his wife and Mrs. Henry J. Baumgaertner, wife of the common council president, they were married. The minister did not know until later that he had performed the marriage rites for a descendant of Lincoln.

The brief ceremony took place in the early afternoon. By 4 p.m. the Beckwiths were on their way back to Chicago, where Jessie, unescorted, returned to her parents' home and in a chat with her mother in her room "confessed" the elopement.

"We still disapprove of the young man," Robert Todd Lincoln told The Milwaukee Journal the next day. "He is not satisfactory to us to be the husband of our daughter."

According to Lester W. Olson, 5558 N. Berkeley blvd., who has compiled a large collection of data about Lincoln and his family, the marriage which began so romantically lasted 10 years, during which time a son and a daughter were born. The Beckwiths were divorced in 1907 and Jessie subsequently married Frank E. Johnson and, later, Robert Randolph.

A Sensation in Town

The 1897 elopement created something of a sensation here. The Journal devoted more than a column on its front page to the wedding account. Beckwith and his bride registered briefly at the old Plankinton house, paid in advance for the lunch and dinner which they ordered sent to their room and seemed, according to the clerk, to be fearful of being seen. When the evening meal was served, the waiter found the Beckwiths had left.

Beckwith and the youthful Jessie were described as being well poised, and Mrs. Baumgaertner recalled the next day that the bride was "sparkling eyed." Mrs. Baumgaertner also reported that she did not think much of the bridegroom but could give no specific reason for this feeling.

Milwaukee Journal
Jan. 6, 1948

LINCOLN FAMILY STORY TURNS UP A NEW CHAPTER

Granddaughter's First Husband Found

BY SEYMOUR KORMAN

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

La Jolla, Cal., March 19—An epilog to the Abraham Lincoln story was added today with the discovery by The Tribune that Warren Wallace Beckwith, 78, first husband of the martyred President's granddaughter, Jessie, is living here.

Beckwith's two children by Jessie, who are great-grandchildren of Lincoln, said recently they hadn't known their father's whereabouts for years, almost as far back as 1907 when he divorced their mother in Mount Pleasant, Ia.

The finding of Beckwith was of particular historical and genealogical interest because he sired two of the only three persons now alive directly descended from President Lincoln, who was assassinated April 14, 1865 after he had saved the Union in the Civil war.

Children Live in East

Jessie, who married twice again after the Beckwith divorce, died Jan. 4, 1948, at Bennington, Vt. at the age of 72. She was the daughter of Robert Todd Lincoln, the only one of the President's four sons who reached manhood. Robert died in Manchester, Vt., in 1926, at the age of 82. Jessie's offspring by Beckwith are Miss Mary [Peggy] Lincoln Beckwith, 53, who lives at Hildene, the Robert Lincoln family estate in Manchester, and Robert [Buddy] Todd Lincoln Beckwith, 47, of Washington.

The only other living direct descendant of Abraham Lincoln is another great-grandson, Lincoln Isham, 59, of New York City and Dorset, Vt. He is the son of the late Charles Isham and Mary Lincoln, who was Robert Lincoln's elder daughter. Charles Isham died in 1919 and his wife in 1938.

Warren Wallace Beckwith is a slim, gray haired man who lives in a delightful flower girdled house above the Pacific surf in this suburb of San Diego. He has been at La Jolla since 1938 and was an active hunter and golfer until a heart ailment curtailed his activity a few years ago. His mother died when he was 5 years old and his father, Warren Beck-

with, who once was general manager of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad, died in 1905. His great-uncle was Gen. Lew Wallace, Civil war fighter and author of "Ben Hur."

Elope to Milwaukee

Beckwith, in his interview with The Tribune, filled in some of the hitherto missing pages in the Lincoln family chronicle. Born in 1873, he was 24 when he eloped to Milwaukee, in 1897 with Jessie Lincoln, then 22. Theirs had been a college romance, Jessie being a society belle and Beckwith the star right half back on the football team of Iowa Wesleyan college at Mount Pleasant. That was the home town of Jessie's mother, Mary Harlan, daughter of Sen. James Harlan of Iowa.

"There has been talk that I didn't get along with Robert Lincoln," Beckwith said, "but that's not true. I was a frequent visitor at his home and he was always very nice to me. I guess the Lincolns were surprised, though, when Jessie and I eloped. They hadn't wanted us to get married, but why shouldn't we? We were sweethearts at college."

Beckwith was an excellent baseball player in those days, and had several seasons at third base with Dallas, Tex. and Sacramento, Cal. minor league teams and also in semi-professional ball in Chicago. He recalled that he was once offered a tryout by the Chicago Cubs, but didn't take the opportunity because his father objected to his continuing in a baseball career. One of Beckwith's proudest possessions today is a membership in the Old Time Baseball Players' association. During his marriage to Jessie, Beckwith worked for the Burlington railroad, checking double track installations in Iowa.

Mother-in-Law Blamed

"Mrs. Lincoln was always interfering in our marriage," Beckwith reminisced. "She kept taking Jessie and our children away from me. Mrs. Lincoln said she was lonely since the death of her son, Abraham Lincoln II."

[The boy, nicknamed Jack, died in 1890 in London at the age of 17.]

"When Mrs. Lincoln took Jessie and our children to London in 1906," Beckwith went on, "I said I was going to get a divorce. Mrs. Lincoln said I couldn't get one, but I showed her. I charged Jessie with desertion and got the uncontested divorce in 1907 in Mount Pleasant. I didn't ask for custody of the children because they were

with Jessie, and she and her family were much better able to support them than I was. I never again saw Jessie or the children, but friends sent me pictures of them.

"I only learned about Jessie's death in 1948 from the newspapers, but it's not surprising that I wasn't invited to the funeral be-

cause I hadn't seen her since 1906, and she had remarried twice and so had I."

Tries to See Children

Beckwith was a captain in the field artillery during World War I spending most of his time on staff work at Blois, France. Once, when passing thru Washington in 1917, he telephoned Jessie and asked if he might see the children.

"She said there was no point to it, to let the past be, and that was the end of that," Beckwith said. Jessie was then married to Frank Edward Johnson, of Norwich, Conn., a geographer. They were divorced in 1925. Her third marriage in 1926 was to Robert J. Randolph, now 77, who lives in New York City.

Beckwith's second marriage was to Blanche Cutter of Aurora, Ill. in 1907 soon after his divorce from Jessie. They were divorced in 1921 and she has remarried. Their son, Philip, 35, is technical manager of the Union Box company of Savannah, Ga.

In 1924 Beckwith married his third and present wife, the former Vera Ward of Asheville, N. C. They have a son, Warren Wallace Beckwith Jr., 27, who is an oceanologist with the Scripps institute in La Jolla.

Children to Share Estate

Beckwith lives on the income from an estate left by his father. Beckwith said the estate is large, but he would not name the amount. On Beckwith's death, the estate will be divided under terms of his father's will, one third of the principal going to the present Mrs. Beckwith, and the other two thirds being split equally among the four children, the two by Jessie Lincoln,

and the one each by Beckwith's two later marriages.

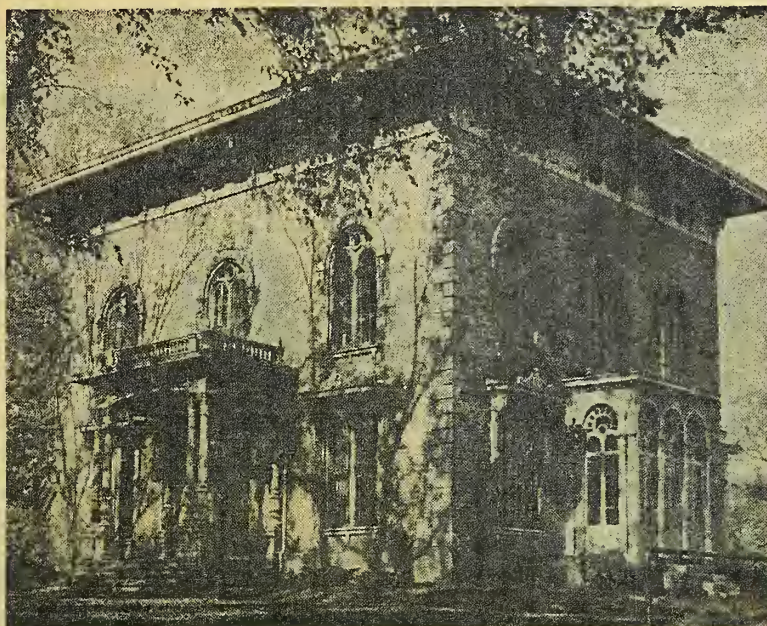
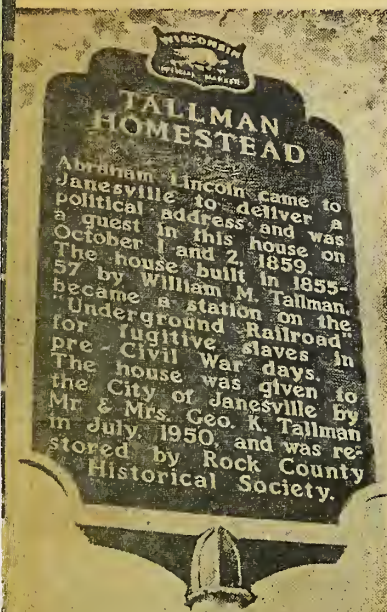
"I can't understand why my two children by Jessie don't know where I am," Beckwith said. "My lawyer has been in touch with them, concerning the ultimate disposition of the estate. No matter how rich those two children may be now, they won't object to getting more money when I die."

Beckwith told his story with little rancor on the subject of his broken first marriage. But his parting remark indicated there is still some disillusionment in his heart about it, even across the mist of years. He gazed fondly on the third Mrs. Beckwith, a pleasant, bustling woman, and said:

"This time I found the perfect wife. I didn't find that in Jessie, nor in my second marriage."

Chicago Tribune,
March 20, 1952

Lincoln Stayed Here 96 Years Ago



Just 96 years ago today, Abraham Lincoln spent the second of two nights at the William M. Tallman home in Janesville. The beautiful mansion and grounds now are owned by the city of Janesville and leased and operated by the active Rock County Historical Society.

The Tallman home, of Italian style, was started in 1855 and completed in 1857. It has three floors, 20 large rooms, not including a galaxy of hallways, basement, stairs, and closets.

So well constructed was the house that none

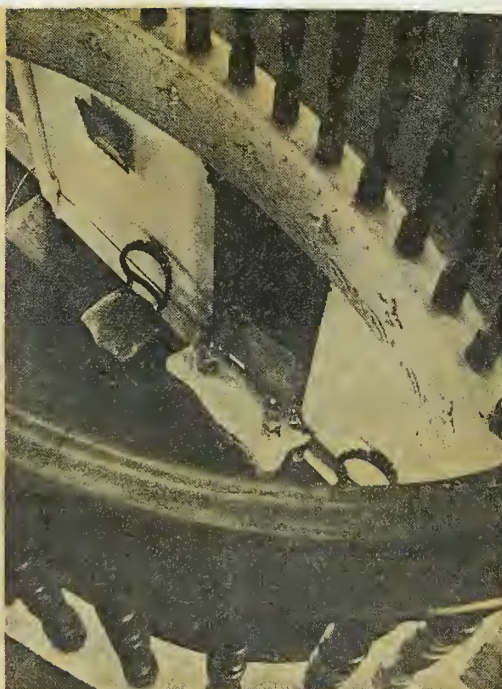
of the mortar has shrunk since the home was built. The home cost \$42,000 in bullion. Some interior woodwork finishes are still in excellent condition, despite the years.

—State Journal Photos by Richard Vesey

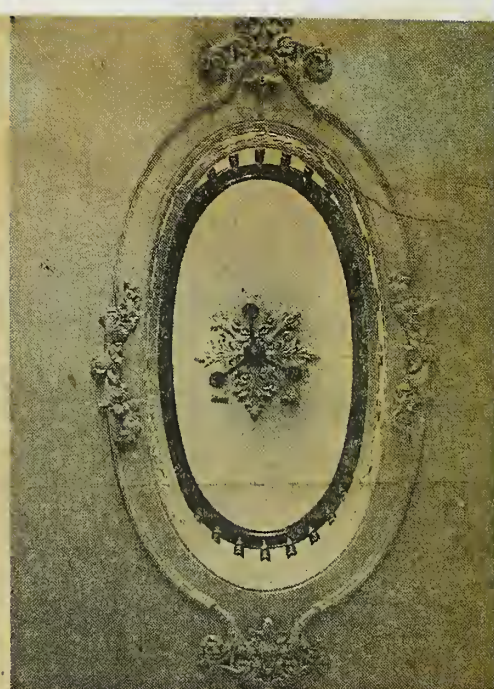
Tallman was an ardent abolitionist, and his home became a station in the "underground railroad," used to spirit slaves to freedom. This second floor window, containing rare colored glass, and the small lantern were used to let escapees know when it was safe to enter the home.



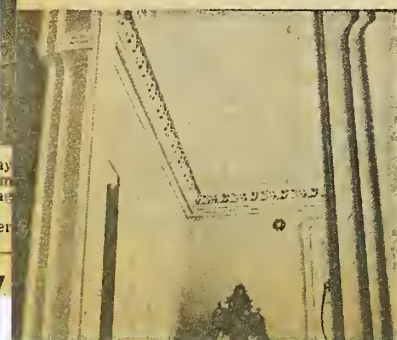
The stairway is one of the most graceful found in any home, anywhere. A bust of Lincoln stands at the foot.



This photo was taken through the elliptical opening between the floor and ceiling of the first and second floor halls.



Another view through the opening was made from the first floor looking directly upward toward the second-floor ceiling.



Lincoln's Granddaughter Ran Off to Milwaukee to Wed Football Star

By LESTER W. OLSON

From "Historical Messenger," the quarterly of the Milwaukee County Historical society.

On a mild fall day, with a light south wind blowing, a young couple alighted in Milwaukee from a Chicago train at 1:45 p.m., Nov. 10, 1897. They hurried out of the St. Paul depot, hailed a hack, and directed the driver to the Hotel Pfister, where they remained only a few minutes. Re-entering the hack, they were driven to the home of the Rev. O. P. Christian, pastor of the Sherman Street Methodist Episcopal church, at 581 12th st.

The young lady was Miss Jessie Lincoln, 22 year old daughter of Robert Todd Lincoln of Chi-

cago, who on almost that very day was elected president of the Pullman Palace Car Co. Jessie, a granddaughter of President Abraham Lincoln, had enjoyed the most brilliant social advantages both in this country when her

Lester W. Olson, 5558 N. Berkeley blvd., Whitefish Bay, in backtracing on the Milwaukee marriage of Lincoln's granddaughter, unearthed the court records of the marriage license and checked the weather bureau. So, when he says it was "a mild fall day with a light south wind blowing" he knows what he is writing. Pictures from Olson's Lincoln collection will appear in Sunday's Picture Journal.

father had been secretary of war, and in London, where Todd Lincoln had been United States minister. She was the second daughter of the Lincolns, the older being Mrs. Charles Isham of New York. Their only son, Abraham, died while the family lived in London.

'A Harum-Scarum'

The bridegroom was 23 year old Warren Wallace Beckwith, son of Capt. Warren Beckwith of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, who had lately retired as general roadmaster of the Burlington railroad. A Milwaukee Journal reporter said of Warren: "Young Beckwith was a harum-scarum young fellow, devoted to athletics, belonging to the local college football and basketball teams, a good horseman, bicyclist, boxer and shot, but with a decided aversion to educational matters and the confining requirements of a business career." He added, however, that Beckwith had no particularly bad habits and was just such a fellow as would attract the attention of a romantically inclined girl.

At 2:30 that afternoon the elopers arrived at the Rev. Mr. Chris-

mitted having gone to Milwaukee and being married secretly in the afternoon. That's all there is to it."

In spite of this strong disapproval of her parents, Jessie joined her husband at Mount Pleasant five days later and on Nov. 18, watched him "battle for the glory of Iowa Wesleyan" on the football field.

This marriage begun so romantically lasted 10 years. The couple's two children survive, Miss Mary Lincoln Beckwith of Manchester, Vt., and Robert Lincoln Beckwith of Washington, D. C. The only other living direct descendant of Abraham Lincoln is Lincoln Isham of New York, son of Jessie's older sister Mary.

The Beckwiths were divorced in 1907. Jessie later married Frank E. Johnson, whom she divorced in 1925. The next year she married Robert J. Randolph. There were no children born of these later marriages. Jessie Lincoln Randolph died at Bennington, Vt., on Jan. 4, 1948.

was somewhat surprised, but as the marriage had been legally performed, he said "he had no apprehension." This was the first runaway couple he had ever married.

After the ceremony the cabman drove the bride and groom to the Plankinton House, where they registered as Mr. and Mrs. Beckwith. Dinner was served in their room. Later that afternoon a waiter found their door open and the room empty. They had already left for the North Western depot and taken the 4 o'clock train back to Chicago. Upon arrival in Chicago, Beckwith took his bride to her father's home, then he registered at the Clifton House.

Lincolns Didn't Approve

The Lincolns did not approve of this marriage. Robert Todd Lincoln issued the following statement the next day: "About a year ago my daughter and young Beckwith became sweethearts while she was visiting her mother's old home at Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Both Mrs. Lincoln and I objected to the young man. We broke off the attachment, separated the young people, and thought that settled it. While Miss Jessie was in Mount Pleasant, on a recent visit, it seems the attachment was renewed, unknown to us. We still disapprove of the young man as much as we did at the outset. We

Milwaukee Journal,
Feb. 11, 1956

Rock County Chronicle



Vol. 3

Lincoln Issue

1957

Published Quarterly by the

ROCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

440 North Jackson Street, Janesville, Wisconsin

ROCK COUNTY CHRONICLE

Volume Three

1957

All Numbers

Published by the Rock County Historical Society,
440 North Jackson Street, Janesville, Wisconsin.

Officers

President, Louis D. Gage, Jr.
Vice President, Miss Margaret Goodwin
Secretary, Mrs. Agnes Falk
Treasurer, Roy Eller
Director-Curator, Robert L. Hall

Directors

Mrs. Marjorie Buss
Mrs. Lilah Zanton
Judge Ralph F. Gunn
Mrs. Beulah Kaase
Miss Helen Warner
E. Marvin Raney

Board of Trustees of the Lincoln-Tallman Museum

Chairman, John W. Gross
Mrs. Hiram Nowlan
Mrs. Robert K. Richardson
John Godfrey
Mark Cullen
Robert Bliss
E.J. Overton
Louis D. Gage, Jr.
Dr. Rachel Salisbury

THE COVER PICTURE for this issue is the cartoon "Mr. Lincoln makes a speech," originally appearing in a book entitled The Letters of Major Jack Downing by Charles A. David, from LINCOLN IN CARICATURE by Rufus Rockwell Wilson, by permission of the publishers, Horizon Press, Inc., New York.

LINCOLN'S LAST VISIT TO WISCONSIN

September 30-October 2, 1859

* * *

As Described in Newspaper

Accounts, Personal

Recollections,

&c.

*

Rock County Historical Society

1958

EDITORIAL NOTE

THERE IS DRAMATIC APPEAL in the "eye-witness account," the sense of "you are there." These are the primary sources of history. In them we have the raw material of biography; the inspiration of historical fiction, and the documentation of weighty tomes.

The selections in this volume of the Chronicle were selected and organized with a mind to documenting Abraham Lincoln's last visit to Wisconsin without doing violence to the dramatic qualities inherent in the material. For this reason, as well as that of space, greater or lesser portions of the many accounts have been edited out. In all cases, however, a source or sources have been indicated to provide the serious student with a pocket guide to much of the literature on Lincoln in Wisconsin.

There is still much that can be gleaned from the records. There are possibly hundreds of memoirs and recollections scattered through newspapers of this and the last century, inserted as historical notes on the occasion of Lincoln's birthday. They would add up to a story of considerable length, fascinating if only for the adventure of locating them. Somewhere there must be the recollections of someone who rode with Lincoln on the train from Milwaukee to Beloit, October 1, 1859. Somewhere there is an account of Lincoln's activities on the afternoon of September 30th.

All the sources may not yet have appeared in print. Within my own family the story survives of a forebear who witnessed Lincoln's Milwaukee speech in 1859. Azro B. Taylor of Fond du Lac was somewhat apprehensive as Lincoln began his speech. Maintaining one eye on the tall figure before him he removed his watch to note the time--you will remember Lincoln began late. But, when Lincoln finished, and applause snapped the trance of Lincoln's oratory, Mr. Taylor became suddenly aware of having stood nearly an hour, pocket watch in hand, just as he had held it as Lincoln began speaking. Such was the power of the future president.

R.L.H.

LINCOLN

When God created this good world
A few stupendous peaks were hurled
From His strong hand, and they remain,
The wonder of the level plain.
But these colossal heights are rare,
While shifting sands are everywhere.

So with the race. The centuries pass,
And nations fall like leaves of grass.
They die--forgotten and unsung,
While straight from God some souls are flung
To live, immortal and sublime.
So lives great Lincoln for all time.

--Ella Wheeler Wilcox,
February 12, 1908.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPEAKS AT THE STATE FAIR

Milwaukee, September 30, 1859

Milwaukee Sentinel, October 1, 1859.

YESTERDAY a high wind combined with the dust rendered the day somewhat unfavorable, but there was a large attendance at the Fair Ground, nevertheless. At eleven o'clock the plank audelarium of BROCKAWAY'S was filled with an expectant crowd, waiting with commendable patience the appearance of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, who had been announced to deliver the address at 10 A.M. It was not far from noon when the distinguished gentleman made his appearance, and was immediately welcomed with clapping hands and a stamping of feet on the raised seats which caused the aforementioned BROCKAWAY to show considerable nervousness. Upon being introduced MR. LINCOLN waited a few moments for the applause to subside and spoke as follows:

"Members of the Agricultural Society and Citizens of Wisconsin:

"Agricultural fairs are becoming an institution of the country. They are useful in more ways than one. They bring us together, and thereby make us better acquainted and better friends than we otherwise would be. * * * Constituted as man is, he has positive need of occasional recreation, and whatever can give him this, associated with virtue and advantage, and free from vice and disadvantage, is a positive good. Such recreation our fairs afford. They are a present pleasure, to be followed by no pain, as a consequence; they are a present pleasure, making the future more pleasant. * * *

The following is an additional excerpt from Abraham Lincoln's Milwaukee speech, the complete text of which can be read from the following sources: Milwaukee Sentinel, October 1, 1859; pp. 287-299, Transactions of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, Vol. V (1858-'59), Madison, 1860; Wisconsin Magazine of History, Vol. X, Madison, 1926-'27; Historical Bulletin No. 1, Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin, Madison, 1943; and elsewhere.

I HAVE SAID this much about the elements of labor generally, as introductory to the consideration of a new phase which that element is in process of assuming. The old general rule was that educated people did not perform manual labor. They managed to eat their bread, leaving the toil of producing it to the uneducated. This was not an insupportable evil to the working bees, so long as the class of drones remained very small. But now, especially in these free states, nearly all are educated--quite too nearly all to leave the labor of the uneducated in any wise adequate to the support of the whole. It follows from this that henceforth educated people must labor. Otherwise, education itself would become a positive and intolerable evil. No country can sustain in idleness more than a small percentage of its numbers. The great majority must labor at something productive. From these premises the problem springs, "How can labor and education be the most satisfactorily combined?"

By the "mud-sill" theory it is assumed that labor and education are incompatible, and any practical combination of them impossible. According to that theory, a blind horse upon a tread-mill is a perfect illustration of what a laborer should be--all the better for being blind, that he could not kick understandingly. According to that theory, the education of laborers is not only useless but pernicious.

and dangerous. In fact, it is, in some sort, deemed a misfortune that laborers should have heads at all. Those same heads are regarded as explosive materials, only to be safely kept in damp places, as far as possible from that peculiar sort of fire which ignites them. A Yankee who could invent a strong-handed man without a head would receive the everlasting gratitude of the "mud-sill advocates.

But free labor says, "No." Free labor argues that as the Author of man makes every individual with one head and one pair of hands, it was probably intended that heads and hands should cooperate as friends, and that particular head should direct and control that pair of hands. As each man has one mouth to be fed, and one pair of hands to furnish food, it was probably intended that that particular pair of hands should feed that particular mouth--that each head is the natural guardian, director, and protector of the hands and mouth inseparably connected with it; and that being so, every head should be cultivated and improved by whatever will add to its capacity for performing its charge. In one word, free labor insists on universal education.

* * *

George P. Hambrecht, "Abraham Lincoln in Wisconsin," Historical Bulletin No. 4, Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin. Madison, 1946.

The Old Brockaway Fair Grounds where the address was given were located northwest of Twelfth Street and Grand Avenue which was on "the edge of the city" in those days. A marker on Thirteenth Street near Wells Street now designates about where Mr. Lincoln stood when he delivered his famous address on agriculture.

LINCOLN SPEAKS AT THE NEWHALL HOUSE

Milwaukee, September 30, 1859

Reprinted from the Wisconsin Magazine of History, Vol. X, pp. 243-244, citing A.M. Thomson in his book, A Political History of Wisconsin, pp. 150-151. The latter was published at Milwaukee in 1900.

IT WAS NOT LONG after tea when the rotunda of the Newhall House was well filled, and Mr. Lincoln was busy shaking hands and making pleasant remarks to the gentlemen who were introduced to him. At length someone suggested that it was a great oversight that the presence of so distinguished an advocate of the anti-slavery cause had not been taken advantage of so that he might have delivered an address upon that all absorbing topic. After a number of gentlemen had expressed their regret that a public meeting had not been called and advertised, Mr. Lincoln was asked if he would not give them a little talk then and there, to which the "rail-splitter" facetiously replied that there was no platform to stand upon, meaning that a speaker ought to be elevated above his auditors who were all standing; and secondly, that there was nothing to talk about. The first objection was soon overcome by someone going out and soon returning with an empty dry goods box for Mr. Lincoln to stand upon... The platform being thus speedily provided, Mr. Lincoln reluctantly stepped upon it and proceeded to deliver an address upon the one burning issue of the hour--slavery... I see him now as he stood there under the gas light upon his improvised rostrum, his talk, gaunt form trembling with suppressed emotion as he depicted the dangers to the country which he felt to be imminent . . .

LINCOLN ARRIVES IN BELOIT

Excerpted from an article appearing on page 3 of the Beloit Daily News for February 12, 1921.

THE FUTURE PRESIDENT, then a rising young lawyer, already noted for his ability as an orator, was escorted from the train to the hotel by the late C.C. Keeler, who died here only a few weeks ago. Mr. Keeler was president of the Republican club, comprised chiefly of young men of the city.⁺

At Lincoln's invitation, Mr. Keeler remained with him during the dinner hour, answering questions about the manufacturing and business interests of the city and particularly concerning Beloit college. Through some confusion in the plans, the parade and formal reception planned for the speaker fell thru [sic] and, except for Mr. Keeler, none of the club executives appeared until time for the mass meeting scheduled for 2 o'clock in the afternoon in Hanchett's hall, which still stands at the northeast corner of Broad and State streets.

In speaking of the incident which led to his being the dinner guest of the Emancipator during his Beloit visit, Mr. Keeler once said: "The photographs of him, taken at different times and under varied circumstances are good, but no artist could put in a portrait the kindly smile, the hearty hand grasp, or the pressure of that hand on the shoulder, as I was about to leave the room when he said:

"Don't go away, young man. Sit down. I want to visit with you." And a very pleasant conversation we

had. He inquired about the factories and business interests of Beloit, asked about the college and remarked that an education was a good thing to have.

⁺Contrary to the text of the Daily News article of 1921 the president of the Beloit Republican Club in 1859 was John Bannister. C.C. Keeler was secretary of the club, according to a note by A.A. Jackson on the manuscript copy of his Lincoln narrative (infra), now in the archives of the Rock County Historical Society, Janesville. Attorney M.A. Northrup of Beloit wrote the letter inviting Lincoln to Beloit as "corresponding" secretary, suggesting Keeler was perhaps recording secretary.

--Editor

* * *

LINCOLN'S BELOIT ADDRESS

October 1, 1859

From the Beloit Journal, October 5, 1859.

AT TWO O'CLOCK Hanchett's hall was packed to hear the address. The high wind and flying dust prevented Mr. Lincoln's speaking in the open air, according to previous announcement. Mr. Bannister, President of the Republican Club, introduced "our distinguished visitor," and then "Old Abe," as his fellow citizens of Illinois delight to call him, commenced the clearest and most conclusive vindication of Republican principles, as well as the most unanswerable demonstration of the fallacy and utter absurdity of the Douglas doctrines, which we ever listened to.

AS ONE MAN SAW LINCOLN

Reprinted from the reminiscences of Stanley E. Lathrop, quoted in George P. Hambrecht's address "Abraham Lincoln in Wisconsin" printed as bulletin No. 4 of the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin. Madison, 1946.

HIS MOVEMENTS were slow and leisurely. As he gradually straightened his gaunt, ungainly form it seemed as if he would never stop rising. He was very tall--six feet four--lank and lean; rugged, smooth-shaven face; swarthy complexion; high cheek bones; prominent nose; large mouth; deep-set gray eyes, overhung by burly, black eye-brows; high wrinkled forehead, crowned by a wealth of coarse black hair. He was past fifty years of age. All his movements were awkward and ungraceful. His voice was rather high-pitched, but there was distinct articulation, and in certain passages it rang like a bugle call. The opening of his speech seemed hesitating, almost to bashfulness. But gradually he awakened, and when fully aroused to the great subjects under discussion, no one thought of his hesitation or awkward manner. He swept the audience along with him, by sound convincing logic and true eloquence. One very strong impression made by his speech was that he was a man tremendously in earnest, a great soul pleading a great cause. I heard Stephen A. Douglas, the "Little Giant," speak in Chicago to a vast outdoor audience in 1860. He had a magnificent voice, wonderfully modulated, and was one of the most polished and popular orators in America, but he did not seem to me

to possess that deep, unshaken faith in the righteousness of his arguments which distinguished Lincoln. Then I could understand how it was that Lincoln's appeal to the most profound sentiment of righteousness in human hearts made him victor in those memorable gatherings. One man, who heard several of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates, afterward said, 'I worshipped Douglas, but Lincoln converted me.'

Lincoln's power consisted largely in his "common sense" and the additional force of honest conviction. In the Beloit speech he analyzed the different doctrines of the opposing political parties, and stated that the Republican party rested on opposition to human slavery in every aspect. He attacked the "popular sovereignty" plea which was Douglas' rallying cry. He made it very plain that slavery was a moral wrong, and not a simple commercial question.

One of his statements was that of the real position of the Republican party. He said that its underlying principle was hatred to the institution of slavery; hatred to it in all its aspects, moral, social, and political. This, he said, was the foundation of the Republican party--its life-giving, active principle. The expression of this hatred to slavery was the policy of the party; and this expression was and should be made in every legitimate, constitutional way. With slavery in the states they had nothing to do; but, said he, when slavery attempted to overleap its present limits, and fasten itself upon free territory, they would resist and force it back. Mr. Douglas, Lincoln said, considered that no moral question was involved. He took it for granted that slavery was not a moral wrong, and sneered at the idea of an "irrepressible conflict" between negro bondage and human freedom; but questions of abstract right and wrong could not be questions of locality.

* * *

LINCOLN IS INVITED TO JANESVILLE BY

A.A. JACKSON

Excerpted from his article, "Abraham Lincoln in the Black Hawk War", appearing on pages 118-136 of Volume XIV, Wisconsin Historical Collections. Madison, 1898.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN was again in Rock County, in 1859. An invitation had been extended to him to deliver the annual address before the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, at its fair held that year in Milwaukee. He delivered his address on Friday, September 30. Upon his return from Milwaukee, the following day, he accepted an invitation by the Republican Club of Beloit to deliver an address in that city. He was met at the railway station by the members of the club, a band of music, and a large number of the citizens of Beloit, and escorted in a carriage to Bushnell House (now the Goodwin House), where he took dinner. At two o'clock he was escorted to Hanchett's Hall, at the corner of Broad and State streets, where he was introduced to a large and enthusiastic audience by John Bannister, the president of the Republican club, and presented a most conclusive vindication of the principles of the Republican party. His address was a review of the then somewhat famous article, "Popular Sovereignty in the Territories," contributed by Stephen A. Douglas to Harper's Monthly, for the preceding month of September. The meeting closed with three hearty cheers for the speaker.

At that time, I was secretary of the Republican club of Janesville. Learning, on the morning of Sat-

urday, that Lincoln was to deliver an address in Beloit in the afternoon of that day,--I had heard the debate between Lincoln and Douglas, at Freeport, in August, 1858,--it seemed to me very desirable that Mr. Lincoln address the Republicans of Janesville. I was at that time living with my partner, James H. Knowlton. Both Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton were out of the city; not wishing, therefore, to take Mr. Lincoln to the home of Judge Knowlton in the latter's absence, I asked William M. Tallman if he would entertain the speaker while in our city, which he assured me he would be pleased to do. I then asked him to accompany me to Beloit, to invite the speaker. I took Judge Knowlton's carriage and driver, and with Mr. Tallman started for Beloit. On Main street, near Milwaukee street, we met Daniel Wilcox, one of the publishers of the Gazette, and I requested him also to accompany us to Beloit, which he did. When we reached Hanchett's Hall, Lincoln had commenced his address. At its close, we introduced ourselves to him, and extended to him an invitation to return with us to Janesville and address our people that evening. This he consented to do, and we immediately returned to Janesville, reaching there before dusk. Finding James H. Burgess at Beloit, he accepted our invitation to ride back to Janesville with us.

While returning from Beloit to Janesville, we came up what is known as the prairie, or town-line road. This runs near the trail followed by Black Hawk and Atkinson's army. While coming over the prairie between Beloit and Janesville, Lincoln recognized the route over which he had marched twenty-seven years before, and freely talked with us about it.

On reaching Janesville, the news that Lincoln had arrived and would address the people that evening, spread rapidly through the city, and a large audience gathered in what was then known as Young America Hall, in the Myers building.

* * *

LINCOLN'S JANESVILLE ADDRESS

October 1, 1859

As reported in the Janesville Morning Gazette of October 4, 1859, and the Weekly Gazette and Free Press of October 7, 1859, with only slight variation.

WHEN MR. LINCOLN made his appearance he was greeted with cheers, and was introduced to the people by Dr. Treat, the president of the Republican club. Many persons saw Mr. Lincoln for the first time; and his person is tall and wiry, his complexion dark, his physiognomy homely, and his phrenological developments being peculiar, he attracted much attention. His style of oratory is plain and unpretending and his gesticulations sometimes awkward. He has studied in no school of declamation, and it is apparent at once that we have homespun, backwoods Abe Lincoln, just as nature made him, without any attempts at oratorical flourish or preparation. This at first is a disappointment, as we all have our ideal of famous men, and if they are not at first grand and impressive, according to our preconceived notions, we are apt to consider them overestimated.

While Mr. Lincoln was laying down his propositions and preparing the way for his speech, most people no doubt thought that Abe Lincoln was not much ahead of common orators, after all; but when he came to make his points tell, and to drive home his logical conclusions, the evidence of his profound thought was apparent, while his powers of satire and wit flashed out brilliantly, and rather startling the audience by their unexpectedness. Whatever unfavorable opinion any person in the audience may at first have

formed of Mr. Lincoln's ability as an orator soon vanishes, and the power of the high order of intellect which he undoubtedly possesses, makes itself felt, not only while the speech is being delivered, but afterwards. His speeches are not easily forgotten, and we doubt not that all his audience who heard him through, still remember his points and his hits, and will do so for many a day; and that they still have a vivid recollection of that tall, gaunt form, stooping over towards his hearers, his countenance full of humor or frowning with scorn, as he lays bare to the gaze of the audience the ridiculous positions of Douglas or withers with his pungent sarcasm the false positions of the believers in popular sovereignty.

No one can forget Mr. Lincoln, his manner or his logic. You are compelled to revolve his ideas over and over in your mind (whether you will or not). Hence we found, yesterday, the Douglas men very much disturbed--Lincoln had hit their popular sovereignty craft between wind and water, and it was about going down with the whole crew on board. They thought there hadn't been much of a storm. "Pooh," said they, "he is no orator--he has not hurt us any--we'll show you a man when Douglas comes." Instinctively they feel that they need the help of their leader, and they cry out for him to come--"Help me, Cassius, or I sink."

- - -

Mr. Lincoln's address was principally in relation to slavery. Of the several points made we select only one, and this we cannot give in the author's own words, as we took no notes.

He enquired why slavery existed on one side of the Ohio river and not on the other. Why did we find that institution in Kentucky, and not in Ohio? There was very little difference in the soil or the climate, and the people on one side of the line loved liberty as well as the other. The northern portion of Kentucky was opposite free territory, while the southern portions of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois had for neigh-

bors states in which slavery existed.

* * *

Mr. Lincoln said that he had failed to find a man who five years ago had expressed it his belief that the declaration of independence did not embrace the colored man. But the public mind had become debauched by the popular sovereignty dogma of Judge Douglas. The first step down the hill is the denial of the negro's rights as a human being. The rest comes easy. Classing the colored race with brutes frees from all embarrassment the idea that slavery is right if it has only the endorsement of the popular will. Douglas has said that in a conflict between the white and the negro, he is for the white man; but in a conflict between the negro and the crocodile he is for the negro! Or the matter might be put in this shape: As the white man is to the negro, so is the negro to the crocodile! (Applause and laughter). But the idea that there was a conflict between the two races, or that the freedom of the white man was insecure unless the negro was reduced to a state of abject slavery, was false and that as long as his tongue could utter a word he would combat that infamous idea. There was room for all races, and as there was no conflict so there was no necessity of getting up an excitement in relation to it.

We have thrown out only a few of the ideas broached by Mr. Lincoln, and these are not his own words. We have entirely omitted all mention of the opening part of his speech which related to the position of the two parties on the slavery question. He spoke about an hour and a half.

* * *

VETERAN RECALLS SERVING LINCOLN

IN BARBER SHOP

This article is reprinted from an unidentified clipping in the files of the Rock County Historical Society. Anyone who can assist the editor in dating this story, presumably from the Janesville Gazette, please contact him at the society office.

WITHOUT APPRECIATING in the least that it was to be a historic moment in his life, a boy of 14 or thereabouts brushed the clothes of a tall, angular Illinois politician in a Janesville barber shop.

The man was Abraham Lincoln, who spoke in Janesville, in the old Hyatt House [Young America, ed.] Hall, in 1858 [1859]. The boy was E.F. Wiegler, now of Milton, a Civil War veteran of the Eagle regiment.

"I was a barber's apprentice in the Lucas barber shop," said Mr. Wiegler Wednesday, "and part of my work was to act as porter and general handy boy. I remember seeing Mr. Lincoln and brushing his clothes and handing him his hat after he had been shaved, but thought little about it at the time. I was too young to be interested in rising politicians who had not yet made their mark."

Mr. Wiegler enlisted in 1861 in the Janesville fire Zouaves, which was renamed Company G at Camp Randall and was made a part of the Eighth Wisconsin. He fought in many battles of the West and served through the war.

LINCOLN AT THE TALLMAN HOME

October 1-²~~3~~, 1859

Lucient S. Hanks' experience as reported by Fréd L. Holmes to the Dearborn Independent, appearing on pp. 23-24 of the issue for February 6, 1926.

IT WAS IN THE AUTUMN of 1859 at the home of my uncle, William M. Tallman, at Janesville, Wisconsin. I was staying at the time with his son Edgar, a boy a year older than I, and visiting a good deal with his sister "Gussie," about my own age. It was one year after the Lincoln-Douglas debates and Mr. Lincoln had come to Janesville, returning from the State Fair at Milwaukee, to speak on political issues of the day. As I now recall it was his last visit to Wisconsin.

Mr. Lincoln was a guest at the Tallman home and I remember the impressions when I first met him. He was in the house talking with Mr. Tallman, a well-to-do and prominent lawyer of southern Wisconsin. When I entered the room and saw him I thought to myself, "What a homely ~~cove~~ he is," an expression the boys used at the time.

"This is Master Hanks," said Mr. Tallman in introducing me.

"Hanks! That's a name familiar to me, my boy," responded Mr. Lincoln. I did not understand what ~~he~~ meant by referring so intimately to the name of "Hanks," but afterward I learned that it was also the name of his mother's family. So far as I know, however, the two families were not related.

Probably it was because of his homely countenance that I remember so vividly his appearance. On that occasion Mr. Lincoln wore a black frock coat, dark stock tie, black vest, thick heavy boots with double soles and his feet were as big as an elephant's. He wore a black slouch hat. I do not know what he carried in the old-fashioned carpet bag he had with him, but one thing was a nightgown, which he wore that night . . . He was scrupulously clean in his personal habits and appearance.

There are some other incidents of that evening which I recall. Sometime after the introduction I remember that Aunt Emeline told me I would have to sleep on the sofa that night because of visitors. I had thought the remark had passed unnoticed by others. But when Mr. Lincoln got back from his speech that evening, he touched Aunt Emeline on the shoulder and said: "The boy and I will get along together all right; he and I will sleep together." He had evidently overheard what Aunt Emeline had said to me earlier in the evening.

Before the speech Mr. Lincoln visited with the entire family. During the early evening "Gussie" and her mother went into the parlor and "Gussie" sat down on the sofa. Soon Mr. Lincoln went into the parlor and I followed, because I wanted to be near the girl, she was so beautiful, and I was in love with my cousin. Mr. Lincoln bowed to the mother and then sat down on the sofa, beside her.

"Now Miss Tallman, I want you to tell me about your beaux," he said.

"But I haven't any," she quickly responded.

"Are you sure you are telling me the truth?" asked Mr. Lincoln turning toward me with questioning eyes. What a moment that was to me!

In those days the Tallman home was one of the finest residences in Southern Wisconsin. It had been

erected early in the fifties from pressed brick brought from Milwaukee. The rooms were large and the house was handsomely furnished. At one side of a wide hallway at the entrance were the sitting and dining rooms and across the hall was a drawing-room, used only on occasions.

The evening of the visit, while we were chatting in the drawing room, Mr. Lincoln faced the sitting room and I could see that he was interested in the next room. Finally he spoke what was on his mind.

"Mrs. Tallman, may we sit in the other room?" he asked. The suggestion pleased her. He evidently had the habit of making people feel at home with him. Soon it was time for the address.

Not being particularly interested in politics at that time I did not hear the speech. There was a dance in one of the neighboring houses and I went to that instead. It was about 11 o'clock when I came back. Lincoln had returned and was talking intently with Mr. Tallman. I went to bed--no one paid any attention to me.

I lay at the back of the bed, and believe that I went to sleep. Though I was awakened when Mr. Lincoln came in about midnight I pretended to be asleep. He undressed quickly and came to bed. For about ten or fifteen minutes he was quiet and apparently went right to sleep. He seemed very uneasy. Soon he gave vocal evidences of slumber. His body jerked and twitched spasmodically, and often he touched me. His long legs would be kicking around, the subconscious effect probably of his vigorous speech but an hour or two before. He and Mr. Tallman were strong abolitionists and perhaps their conversation before going to bed had made him nervous. He was very restless. There was simply no sleep whatever for me. I could stand it no longer. I slipped out of bed and went into the hall, where I slept on a sofa the remainder of the night. Lincoln never knew when I left.

In the morning a humorous incident occurred. At the end of the hall, near the stairway leading to the second floor, was a closet supplied with slippers. Everyone was expected to exchange his shoes for slippers before going to bed. By oversight Mr. Lincoln had not been informed of this custom and wore his boots to his room and then set them outside the door. It was nearing train time. Edgar was finally told to call him, but as he started, Lincoln entered the sitting room. I can see him now. He was minus boots--his blue yarn stockings with white tips being plainly in evidence. Turning to Mrs. Tallman, he smilingly declared:

"I can't accuse you, but I have no boots."

Aunt Emeline was a bit mortified. Finding the boots at his door, the janitor had taken and cleaned them, but returned them to the downstairs closet. Lincoln sat down in the sitting room and pulled them on before the entire family.

I went by way of Washington in the autumn of 1863 to visit with Edgar Tallman and then on to my old home at Hartford, Connecticut. While in Washington I met President Lincoln on the street. I knew him the moment I saw him; he was such a homely looking fellow I could not forget him. President Lincoln apparently recognized me as someone he had seen before and stopped.

"I am Hanks, the fellow who tried to sleep with you," I said coming up and shaking his hand. Lincoln laughed, declared that he remembered the incident, and invited me to visit him. But I was in such a hurry to get back to my old home that I did not seize this opportunity.

I was shocked and pained less than two years after when I read in the papers that he had been cruelly assassinated.

TALLMANS RECALL LINCOLN'S VISIT

Extracted from page 5 of the Janesville Daily Gazette for February 12, 1909.

One little incident of Lincoln's visit to Janesville sixty years ago is remembered of the man who afterwards became President. He stayed for the night at the residence of William Tallman after making his speech in the evening. In those days it was the custom for guests to place their shoes outside the door of the room to be blackened and returned. This Mr. Lincoln did, but failed to find them on arising in the morning. In those days it was the custom of the Tallman family to assemble in the library for morning prayers and Mr. Lincoln appeared in their midst in his stocking feet. They were blue homespun with white toes and heels. In quiet dignity he told Mrs. Tallman of his loss and said in a quaint manner: "They are too big for anyone else, Mrs. Tallman, so I am sure they were not stolen." A search was quickly made and the missing articles returned. Mr. Edgar Tallman, a son in the household, and father of Justice Stanley Tallman, said the dignity of the man, the quiet manner with which he took the affair, while ludicrous in itself, was one at which none of the family even smiled over.

Mr. Lincoln stayed in Janesville during the morning and attended church service here before returning to Beloit.

LINCOLN ATTENDS SERVICES

At the Congregational Church

Reprinted from the Janesville Gazette for Thursday, February 12, 1925.

ON SUNDAY [Lincoln] attended church at the Congregational Church and perhaps the only living person who remembers him there is Miss Mary L. Peterson of 316 East Milwaukee street. There are not many now living who saw Lincoln at that time. The harvest of the old of that day has been complete, the youth knew him only as a passing event soon forgotten.

Miss Mary L. Peterson, 316 East Milwaukee street, recalls seeing Lincoln when he attended services at the Congregational church here in 1859. She was a young girl and noticed the stranger who came into the church in company with Mr. and Mrs. William M. Tallman. She said . . . his height and correct carriage impressed her first and when she glimpsed his face she thought to herself, "My, what a homely man!" but at the same time she noticed something in his expression that attracted her. She was so strongly impressed that she watched him "every minute during the service" and was very anxious to find out who he was.

On inquiring she was told that the stranger was, "Mr. Abraham Lincoln, a friend of Mr. Tallman's, from Illinois" who had stopped over to spend Sunday while enroute to [from] Milwaukee to make a speech."

* * *

JANESVILLE MAN ACCOMPANIES ABE TO WASHINGTON

Reprinted from the Janesville Gazette for Thursday, February 12, 1925.

ONE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY on the memorable journey of Lincoln from his home at Springfield, Illinois, to Washington, was a Janesville man, James M. Burgess, who was afterward appointed postmaster in this city by the president, and served until removed by President Johnson.

Just before reaching Baltimore, Mr. Lincoln learned that an attempt was to be made to assassinate him in that city, according to the story that has found general acceptance.

Whether or not a plot was actually made, Mr. Lincoln left Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, by a special train, and passed through Baltimore early in the morning. When the presidential train arrived in Baltimore, Mr. Burgess was selected to go onto the platform of the train and announce that the president was already in Washington.

Mr. Burgess became acquainted with the war-time president on the occasion of his visit to this city, October 1, 1859, when he spoke at Young America Hall.

At the close of his speech here, it is recounted that he met many Janesville men, among them Mr. Burgess, and laughingly related to them the story of his march between here and Fort Atkinson as a soldier in Black Hawk grove, now a part of Janesville.

JANESVILLE READS OF LINCOLN'S DEATH

The following official bulletins of different date-lines are all from the April 15, 1865, issue of the Janesville Gazette.

WAR DEPARTMENT, April 14th--11 p.m.--Major General Dix:--This evening about 9:30 p.m., at Ford's Theater, the President, while sitting in his private box with Mrs. Lincoln, Mrs. Rogers and Major Rathburn, was shot by an assassin who suddenly entered the box and approached behind the President. The assassin then leaped upon the stage, brandishing a large dagger or knife, and made his escape in the rear of the theater. The pistol ball entered the back of the President's head and penetrated nearly thro the head. The wound is mortal. The President has been insensible ever since it was inflicted, and is now about dying.

About the same hour an assassin, whether the same or not is not known, entered Mr. Seward's apartments and under the pretense of having a prescription was shown to the secretary's sick-chamber. The assassin immediately rushed to the bed and inflicted two or three stabs on the throat, and two on the face. It is hoped that the wounds may not be mortal. My apprehension is that they will prove fatal. The nurse examined Mr. Fred Seward who was in an adjoining room and hastened to his father's room where he met the assassin who inflicted upon him one or two dangerous wounds. The recovery of Fred Seward is doubtful.

It is not probable that the President will live through the night. Gen. Grant and wife were advertised to be at the theater this evening, but he

started to Burlington at six o'clock this evening.

At a Cabinet meeting at which Gen. Grant was present, the subject of the state of the country and the prospect of a speedy peace was discussed. The President was cheerful and hopeful and spoke very kindly of Gen. Lee and others of the Confederacy, and of the establishment of a government in Virginia.

All the members of the cabinet except Mr. Seward are now in attendance upon the President. Shaw has seen Mr. Seward, but he and Frederick were both unconscious.

E.M. STANTON, Sec'y of War

WAR DEPARTMENT, 4:10 a.m., April 15.--To Major General Dix:--The President continues insensible and is sinking. Secretary Seward remains without change. Frederick Seward's skull is fractured in two places besides a severe cut on the head. The attendant is still alive but hopeless. Mr. Seward's wounds are not dangerous. It is now ascertained that two assassins were engaged in the horrible crimes, Hicks /!/ Booth being the one that shot the President, and the other an accomplice of his whose name is not known but whose description is so clear that he can hardly escape. It appears from a letter found in Booth's trunk that the murder was planned before the 4th of March but fell through then because the accomplice backed out until Richmond could be heard from. Booth and his accomplice were at the livery stable at six o'clock last evening and left there with their horses about 10 o'clock, or shortly before that hour. It would seem that they had for several days been watching their chance, but for some unknown reason it was not carried into effect until last night. One of them has evidently made his way to Baltimore. The other has not yet been traced.

E.M. STANTON, Sec'y of War

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington,
April 15.---Maj. Gen. Dix:---
Abraham Lincoln died this
morning at 22 minutes after
7 o'clock.

(Signed) E.M. STANTON,
Sec'y of War.



Sec. 24/66. P. L. & L.

Join today!

\$1

- Active membership in the Society
- Subscription to the **CHRONICLE**
- Free admission to the Tallman Home



Relative of President Lincoln Buried on Abe's Birthday

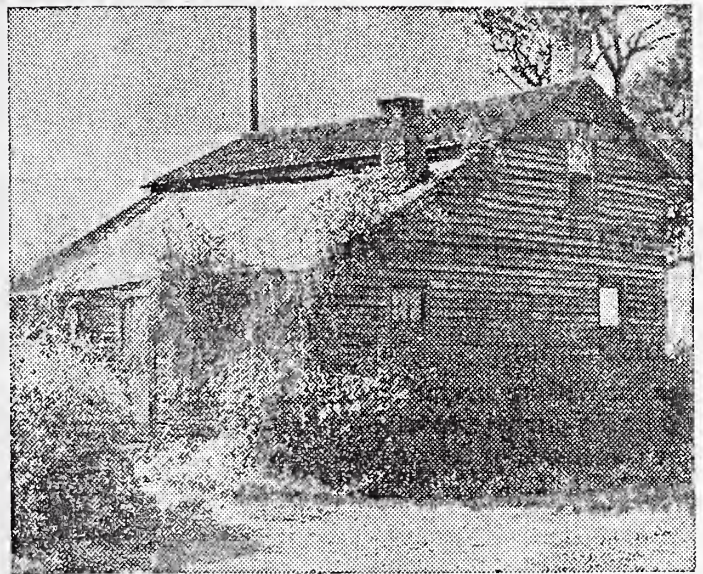
Funeral services will be held this afternoon, Lincoln's Birthday, for Delmer F. Lincoln, 77-year-old Union Grove farmer, and a relative of Abraham Lincoln, president of the United

States from 1861 until his assassination in 1865.

As the nation observes the birthday anniversary of its 16th president, services will be read for the Union Grove man, who is to be buried beside his father, through whom he was related to the president, in the Union Grove cemetery.

Delmer Lincoln, who is survived by two brothers, George Lincoln of Chicago and Harry Lincoln of Union Grove, was a son of the late Frank E. Lincoln, pioneer Racine county farmer, who came to Yorkville in 1853 from Montello, Wis., and purchased the farm originally owned by his grandfather.

Four generations of the Lincoln family lived in the farm house built in 1840 by the grandfather on land he obtained from the government in 1837. Delmer was the fourth



—Journal-Times Photo

Photos above show interior and exterior views of the home at Yorkville which sheltered four generations of the Lincoln family, relatives of Abraham Lincoln, 16th president of the United States. The house, built in 1840, stands on land obtained from the government in 1837 by the great-grandfather of George and Harry Lincoln, whose brother Delmer had operated the farm for many years prior to his death on Feb. 9. Delmer was buried today, Lincoln's birthday.

Racine Journal-Times,
Feb. 12, 1957



generation to operate the farm.

When Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's theater, Frank Lincoln, father of Delmer and his brothers, was only 12 years old. He never saw the Civil War president although Abe Lincoln visited his uncle, David Lincoln, in Chicago several times during his campaign and Abraham's son Robert was a boyhood chum of David Lincoln's son.

Several relics of President Lincoln have been in possession of his Racine County relatives. Among the most treasured is a Bible, written in Old English and signed by Abraham. Another is a pair of binoculars carried in the Civil War by a Lincoln relative who lost his life in the second Battle of Bull Run. The binoculars also were used during World War I and were returned after the armistice to the Lincoln family.

Rites Saturday at Grove for Abe Lincoln Relative

One of the oldest relatives of Abraham Lincoln, 16th president of the United States, died Feb. 17 in Chicago. However, the body of George B. Lincoln, 77, will be returned to the Town of Yorkville, the place of his birth in 1881, for burial.

Rites Saturday
Graveside funeral services

will be conducted for George Lincoln at 1 p. m. Saturday, Feb. 21, by Rev. Loren Lewis. Burial will be in the Union Grove Cemetery.

An attorney by profession, Lincoln had lived in Chicago for the last 52 years, but his youth was spent in and near Union Grove. A son of the late Frank E. and Catherine Jordan Lincoln, he was born in the Lincoln home built by his pioneer ancestors in the Town of Yorkville. Four generations of the Lincoln family lived in the farmhouse built in 1840 by Lincoln's grandfather on land he obtained from the government in 1837.

Union Grove School

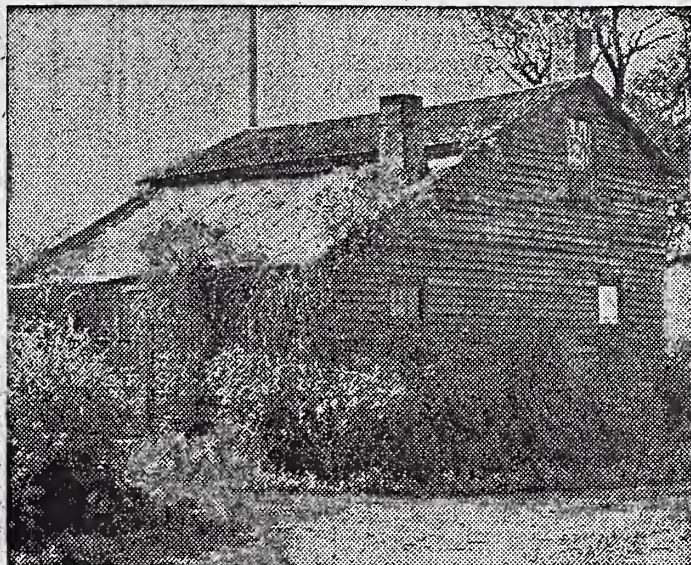
Lincoln received his early education at a Union Grove high school.

Although he never met his illustrious relative President Lincoln, George Lincoln owned several prized articles at one time involved in the president's life.

Most important of these is a family Bible written in Old English and signed by Abraham. There also is a pair of binoculars which were used in the Civil and World wars. The glasses were carried by a Lincoln relative who lost his life in the second battle of Bull Run.

3 Survivors

In Chicago, Lincoln was a member of Cleveland Lodge 211, F. & A. M., was past High Priest of Washington Chapter 43, R. A. M., and past Illustrious Master of Chicago Council R.S.N. Survivors include his wife, Mathilda; two nieces and two nephews.



—Journal-Times Photo

Pictured in above photo is the old Lincoln home in the Town of Yorkville, where George Lincoln, relative of the 16th president of the United States, was born in 1881. Four generations of the Lincoln family lived in the house which was built by George Lincoln's grandfather, an early settler in Racine County.

Racine
Journal-Times,
Feb. 20, 1959

Lincoln In State at Least Twice, Historians Recall on Birth Date

By STERLING SORESENSEN
ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the Civil war president whose birthday anniversary is observed today, visited the Badger state twice, and possibly three times in the course of a career which took him from his log cabin birthplace in Hardin county, Kentucky, to the white house.

Today Madison and Wisconsin join in marking the 139th anniversary of the birth of the Great Emancipator who died by an assassin's bullet in a house not far from Ford's theater, Washington, D. C., on Apr. 15, 1865.

Banks and state and county office buildings were closed today and on exhibit at the state historical museum are its items from its Lincoln collection—including an oil portrait, the bedspread from the bed in which Lincoln died, a cast of the 16th president's hands, photo-

graphs, autographs and a page from the text of the speech he made on Sept. 30, 1859, at the state fair at Milwaukee. The speech was written in longhand by Lincoln.

LINCOLN VISITED Wisconsin as a soldier and as a statesman, and possibly as a young and briefless lawyer, although historians are not agreed on the authenticity of young Abe's trip up along the Michigan lake shore to Sheboygan.

Romantisists have told that grief-maddened by the death of his sweetheart, Ann Rutledge, Lincoln left his Illinois surroundings with the idea of joining the stream of immigration into the new Badger territory.

During the latter part of the 1830s, some writers have maintained, Lincoln made an exploration (Continued on page 10, column 8)

Lincoln Was State Visitor At Least Twice

(Continued from page 1)

tory tour of Wisconsin. He visited Milwaukee, and walked north along the lake as far as Sheboygan, especially examining Port Washington where he had thought of settling.

However, the state's foremost scholars, including Alice Smith, of the state historical society's maps and manuscript division, discount this oft-told tale as being without basis in reliable fact.

IN AFTER YEARS, Lincoln was accustomed to make light of his soldiering in the Black Hawk Indian war of 1832, but at the time, it was grim business.

Old Chief Black Hawk, after raiding the exposed settlements of northern Illinois, fled to southern Wisconsin, along a route which took him through Madison, and to the Mississippi. Regular troops and Illinois militia were summoned in the fight against Black Hawk, and among them was a young militiaman, Lincoln.

The troops with whom Lincoln volunteered crossed the Wisconsin border on June 30, near Beloit, and for 10 days pressed northward up the Rock river. On July 10, the militia was mustered out at a point beyond Ft. Atkinson, and Lincoln returned home.

In 1859, his fame assured by his debates with Stephen A. Douglas, Lincoln visited the state as the standard bearer of the newly organized Republican party. First at the Milwaukee state fair, and then at Beloit and Janesville, he spoke on the burning issues of the day, and predicted the ultimate end of the iniquity of slavery.

THE TALK Lincoln made on Sept. 30, 1859 at Milwaukee was published the next day in the Milwaukee Sentinel. The talk was made from a manuscript, written by Lincoln himself.

Each compositor in the Sentinel's composing room kept his own "take" of the copy in Lincoln's handwriting, and one of these pages has come into the possession of the Wisconsin State Historical society.

The Sentinel compositor gave it to Lathrop E. Smith, then a student at Beloit, and later editor of the Howard County Times, Cresco, Ia. Smith was a one time Madison resident.

The first sentence of the page from Lincoln's address reads:

"The world is agreed that labor is the source from which human wants are mainly supplied."

Thursday Afternoon, February 12, 1948

Racine Girl Became Maid for Mrs. Abraham Lincoln

Journal Special Correspondence

Racine, Wis.—A rocking chair purchased with the first wages Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln paid a 12 year old Racine Negro girl, who worked as her personal maid, has been given to Mrs. John Monte, Racine, a member of the Racine County Historical society.

The chair was purchased in Washington, D. C., by the late Mrs. Logan Davis and was given by her to Mrs. Gilbert Beth. The two women were neighbors here from 1925 until Mrs. Davis' death in 1945. Mrs. Beth gave the chair to Mrs. Monte when she moved to Florida recently.

According to Mrs. Beth, Mrs. Davis was assigned to be Mrs. Lincoln's maid when the Civil war president's wife and son visited Racine in the summer of 1867. The Lincolns stayed at the Congress hotel.

Mrs. Lincoln took a liking to the little girl and asked her to return to Washington with her. Mrs. Davis told Mrs. Beth that in Washington she was sent to school, working for Mrs. Lincoln in her spare time. With the first wages she received, she purchased the black walnut wood rocking chair.

Later, Mrs. Davis worked in the bureau of engraving. She retired in 1925 after 58 years in the department, and returned to Racine.

Mrs. Davis also left six china plates which she was given as a memento of her days with Mrs. Lincoln. There are two plates of each of three floral patterns. Each plate has a pattern number and is dated 1866. The plates also have been turned over to Mrs. Monte.

Milwaukee
Journal,
May 30, 1961

St. Paul Pioneer Press
Wisconsin News

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 1970

Old Abe Legend Grows

By EARL CHAPIN
Staff Writer

EAU CLAIRE — The sculpture of Old Abe, which will be dedicated Friday (see story below), is a long-due recognition of one of the most notable figures in Wisconsin history. Old Abe was not a man: he was a bird, a bald eagle, and his story is one of the classics of state lore.

"Old Abe" was the name given their eagle mascot by the Eighth Wisconsin Infantry, which he served as a living standard bearer and an inspiration to the soldiers in 36 battles and skirmishes during three years in the field.

He was called the "war bird" by Confederate soldiers, who tried to capture him and, "that damn Yankee buzzard" when they failed. Old Abe lived an illustrious life, his early years amid the excitement and din of battle, his later years amid honors generally accorded only great war heroes.

IN THE SPRING of 1861 an Indian named Sky Chief, while making sugar on the upper reaches of the Flambeau River, chanced upon an eagle's nest. With the aid of a companion he felled the tree and captured the two me-kee-zeen-ce (eaglets) in the nest. One died as the result of the fall. The other was sold to a trader, Daniel McCann, for a bushel of corn.

The McCann cabin was situated near Jim Falls of the Chippewa River, on the west side. McCann taught the young eagle tricks such as rolling over and playing dead and doing a jig to the tune of a harmonica.

Stirring events were happening in 1861. The long-threatened war between the states was beginning to unfold. President Abraham Lincoln's call for troops had sent a wave of patriotic fervor through the North. In towns and settlements of even the most remote regions, companies of volunteers were being formed. Dan McCann was crippled, but feeling that "somebody in the family ought to go," he took the eagle to Chippewa Falls where a volunteer group was being organized, and offered him as a mascot.

THE CHIPPEWA company refused so McCann brought the young eagle on down to Eau Claire where Company C of the 8th Wisconsin Regiment was preparing to leave for service.

Capt. John E. Perkins at first hesitated to accept so

Old Abe, famous eagle mascot of the Eighth Wisconsin Infantry during the Civil War, is shown here in a photo made from a contemporary stereoscopic view. Inspiring the the Union soldiers in battle after battle, he was called the "war bird" by Confederate soldiers who tried to capture him, and "that damn Yankee buzzard" when they failed.



strange a recruit, but the arguments of his men prevailed. The eagle was sworn into the service by putting red, white, and blue ribbons about his neck, and being named Old Abe in honor of the president. A perch was provided: On it the eagle was carried alongside the colors.

It was with much fanfare that Company C boarded the Steamer Stella Whipple at the site of the present Masonic Temple in Eau Claire, and the eagle was the center of attention. So it was also at La Crosse where the company disembarked and took a train to Madison and Camp Randall.

Company C left Madison after about six weeks of training and went South where they engaged in numerous battles and skirmishes.

Old Abe was truly a "war eagle." The constant excitement of marches and battles roused all the native fire in the majestic bird. A contemporary account states, "At the sound of the regimental bugle, which he learned to recognize, he would start suddenly, then bend his head gracefully, anticipating the coming shock.

With excited animation he would survey the squadrons as they rushed into line. Click would go a thousand locks and Old Abe would turn, scrutinizing the ranks, and dipping his brow forward, await the crash. When it came, rolling fiery thunder over the plain, he would spring

up and spread his pinions, uttering his startling scream, heard, felt and glorified in by the desperate soldiers."

THE PRIDE and confidence of the Federals in their mascot was matched by the ambition of their foe to capture it. Said Gen. Sterling Price, with Generals Van Dorn and Lovell commanding 42,000 southern troops arrayed against the forces of Rosecrans near Corinth, Miss., "I would rather capture that old eagle than a whole Yankee brigade." He ordered his men to take Old Abe "at any hazard."

The Eighth Wisconsin, by forced march, reached the scene of battle at Corinth at 2 p.m., on Oct. 3, 1862. This was what the Confederates had been waiting for. With a yell that echoed across the hills, they charged upon the Eighth Regiment which had deployed in front of the Union lines.

In a frenzy of determination the southerners struck the Eagle regiment and sent the Union men reeling back until Old Abe, on his perch, was in the thick of the battle.

"There he is!" Capture him, boys!" a Confederate officer shouted.

Roused to a supreme effort by the danger to their mascot, the Wisconsin infantrymen rallied. In the rain of shot, the leash which held Old Abe to his perch was severed and the mascot soared into the sky.

SEEING their objective

escaping, the Confederates turned their fire on the eagle. But with a scream of defiance, Old Abe rose unscathed high above the battlefield. From his advantage aloft he watched the conflict ebb and flow, and when a lull in the battle provided an opportunity, he plummeted to earth to alight near the color bearer of his regiment.

On June 26, 1864, Old Abe returned to Eau Claire with the remnants of the original company.

FEW GENERALS received the post-war acclaim accorded Old Abe. He was the center of interest at the first encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was taken to the Chicago Fair and the Philadelphia Centennial. He was the guest of honor at a banquet for Gen. U.S. Grant. Sale of feathers, pictures and biographies raised \$105,900 for the branch home of the National Asylum for Volunteer Soldiers at Milwaukee.

But the famous eagle became a ward of the State of Wisconsin and made his home in a large room fitted for him in the basement of the Capitol Building. Smoke from a fire in the building brought about the eagle's death after 17 years of residence there. In 1881 the Capitol Building burned and the stuffed body of Old Abe was destroyed. A replica was found and donated by the GAR of Mellen, Wis. This bird is now in the GAR room of the present Capitol Building.

IN MENOMONIE

County, City Work Together

Pioneer Press News Service

MENOMONIE — "Togetherness in government" took a giant step forward here earlier this month when the Dunn County Board of Supervisors voted to accommodate city administrative and police offices in two county owned and operated structures.

The 17-10 vote by the supervisors now makes it possible for city administrative offices to occupy a new floor to be added to the Dunn County Courthouse and for the city police force to operate from the county sheriff's office which will undergo extensive remodeling.

While the decision was of the landmark variety, it is not the first time in Dunn county history that city and county officials decided to cooperate in a major project.

Close to a quarter of a century ago, Menomonie and Dunn County, with an assist from the state legislature, pooled their efforts for the first jointly owned city-county hospital in Wisconsin history. In 1947 when this bit of "togetherness in government" took place, the city of Menomonie and Dunn County were served by a somewhat antiquated "City Hospital."

At that time leading city and county officials determined that a joint effort provided the best approach for improved hospital facilities to serve a growing "community" — the city and county. The state legislature added the final bit of enabling action.

After this, Dunn County purchased one-half interest in the existing hospital. In 1948 the hospital board of trustees was formed and the remodeling of the old building began. While this was going on plans for a new structure started. The new building was completed in 1950.

Then in 1958 another "joint effort" by the county and city resulted in another enlargement and remodeling of facilities.

The current project to relocate the city's administrative offices and police department in buildings owned and operated by the county wasn't accomplished overnight. It took more than a year of meetings at various levels and a lot of patience on the part of all involved before approving vote came.

Harvey Rudiger, the lone dissenter, wanted someone to tell him what would happen to the sheriff and his family who would be displaced from their homesite in the sheriff's office remodeling; he also wondered whether city residents would approve of going to the third floor of the Courthouse building to transact business; and he questioned whether residents would approve the closing of an adjacent street which was part of the package.

Commenting on putting the city police department in the sheriff's building, he said, "you can't put three departments out there without a boss."

Dennis Schlosser, who chaired the committee, said "we acted on the best information available in making our decision. Some details will have to be worked out later. The idea is good. Mistakes of the past can't affect present plans."

Menomonie's city manager, George Langmack, who made the presentation, stressed that the key decision supervisors would have to make would be whether the "proposal adversely affects the function of county activities."

The city manager stressed that preliminary estimates indicate the city will save 20 per cent in initial outlay plus the opportunity to reduce overhead.

Eclipse screens the sun

When you're readying for a day on the beach, don't forget Eclipse. It acts like a filter, letting just the right amount of sunshine in for a smooth, safe tan. Great for thin-skinned who invariably burn with other lotions! And Eclipse is kind to clothes as it is to delicate skin. 5 1/2 oz. size with easy-to-use pouring spout, 1.79. Drugs, all stores. Call 339-0112 to order. 50¢ delivery charge. dayton's



Shop today

SALE Ca

In conjunction with the story elsewhere in this issue on Old Abe the "War Eagle," it is of interest to know that the mother of Dan McCann of Jim Falls, who sold the eagle to Company C of the Eighth Wisconsin Regiment, was Sarah Hanks, sister of Nancy Hanks, mother of Abe Lincoln. Lincoln spent one fall and winter with the McCanns at Jim Falls in 1838.

Lincoln didn't like the severe winter and he used to remark on the poor shoes worn by the Indians and the natives. Watching Mrs. McCann chopping potatoes he said, "I'll make you a better chopping bowl than that." He went outside and procured a large block of wood made of hard maple and dug it out with an ax. He also made a chopping knife by filing out a tooth and part of the blade of a cross-cut saw.

SALE 79¢

Vespre feminine hygiene spray stops odor before it starts. 2.5 oz. size.



SALE 99¢

Coppertone oil and Tanning Butter aerosol in 4 oz. size, are 99¢ each. Coppertone lotion, 8 oz., is 1.88.



Lincoln's lonely widow sought solace here in 1872

EDITOR'S NOTE: Miss Adams, of Mayville, wrote this article on Mary Todd Lincoln for the Freeman while she was a history major at Carroll College. Presently she is a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin.

"I am trying, as you will perceive, to make the most of this fearfully wearisome summer. I live in a retired manner in a private house on the outskirts of the town where there are no other boarders and have all the advantages of the country.

"I am so miserable over my great sorrows, that at times I feel it is impossible to see a strange face. The weather is oppressively warm here; what must it be in Chicago!"

So wrote Mrs. Abraham Lincoln during her stay in Waukesha in the summer of 1872. This excerpt, dated August 8, is taken from one of two Waukesha-postmarked letters published by Justin and Linda Levitt Turner in their new book, "Mary Todd Lincoln: Her Life and Letters." It reflects the life style she assumed throughout her widowhood. She lived alone, shunning publicity and companionship.

Mrs. Lincoln arrived in the "Saratoga of the West" the first week in July "to drink the Bethesda waters." She stayed at the O.M. Hubbard home until late August while making side trips to other parts of the state.

The old house still stands at 354 W. St. Paul Ave. The west half of the two-family dwelling is the original structure where Mrs. Lincoln occupied the upstairs front bedroom. An addition was built in the 1940s.

So anxious was Mary Lincoln to remain secluded and unpublicized that she secured lodging without giving her name. It took the Hubbards two weeks before they surmised the identity of their distinguished guest and had their suspicions confirmed by the postmaster.

H. M. Youmans, publisher of the Freeman in 1872, wrote of observing Mrs. Lincoln "strolling along the shady sidewalks. She was always by herself. She looked frail and worn as one who had been buffeted by many sorrows. She went to the spring occasionally but otherwise kept to her room. She did not want to meet people or talk with them."

Part of the "great sorrows" referred to in her letter, which caused Mrs. Lincoln's desire for anonymity, were the deaths of Abraham Lincoln and three of her four sons. The last of these, Thomas or "Tad," died in July, 1871.

Another source of constant torment was what she termed "the vampyre press." As the southern born and raised wife of the northern Union's first Republican president, she was subjected to a great deal of abuse as First Lady during the Civil War.

Wild stories, based upon Mrs. Lincoln's somewhat erratic temperament, were circulated throughout the country to politically hurt her husband. As a widow she was treated in a manner similar to current movie magazine "exposes" of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

Despite her precautions, controversy surrounded her even in Waukesha. Apparently taking its lead from larger newspapers across the nation, the Waukesha Plaindealer of August 13 carried this item:

"Mrs. Lincoln, relict of the 'late lamented' who is spending a few weeks in this village, recently visited Milwaukee to have an interview with a spiritualistic medium there, which is reported to have been satisfactory.

"During the last few weeks she has been holding spiritualistic communion through the most celebrated mediums of the east and has now opened communication through this particular operator at Milwaukee. The particulars of this spiritual interview are not made public."

Waukesha Freeman,
Feb. 10, 1973

Mathew Brady took this photo of Mrs. Lincoln in happier days — just before her husband's second inaugural in April of 1865.



Whether the Plaindealer actually shadowed Mrs. Lincoln or whether the account was based on a scrap of hearsay is impossible to determine. The Plaindealer did not reveal where it obtained the information and no other paper in Waukesha or Milwaukee mentioned the subject.

Mrs. Lincoln did become interested in spiritualism after her son Willie died in 1862. By 1869, however, she was writing: "I am not either a spiritualist. . ."

Neither of the two known letters written during her stay in Waukesha mentioned a visit to a Milwaukee medium. It is possible, though, that Tad's death may have driven her to spiritualism again for comfort.

On August 15, the Waukesha Freeman

issued an editorial reprimand to the Plaindealer:

"Mrs. Abraham Lincoln is living in Waukesha at present, in retirement, and has manifested no desire to thrust herself upon public notice. Under these circumstances we consider it in very bad taste for newspapers to concern themselves with comments upon her visiting spiritualists or any other person she may wish to visit."

For ten years after leaving Waukesha Mrs. Lincoln continued to wander restlessly about the country. Her search for restoratives for her health and a place of refuge from the prying eyes of the press ended only upon her death in 1882.

The home occupied by Mrs. Lincoln is now owned by George H. Egan. Mrs. Lincoln stayed in a bedroom at the upper left. The room and the house, Mrs. Egan said, have been extensively remodeled. Almost half of the right side of the house is an addition put up in the 1940s.

By KRISTINE ADAMS
Freeman Correspondent



(Freeman Staff Photo)

Mary Todd Lincoln lived in Racine

Did you know that Mary Todd Lincoln once lived in Racine? Did you know that Racine is the only city in the whole world to erect a statue to her memory?

These facts are brought out in an interesting story written by Steven Rogstad entitled "Abraham Lincoln's Widow Visits Racine." Rogstad is the secretary of the Racine County Historical Society, and his story appears in the February 1982 bulletin. I thought you'd enjoy reading it, so here it is.

The Racine Daily Journal reported on July 17, 1882, the death of Abraham Lincoln's widow, Mary Todd. In offering its eulogy, the Journal stated that "Mrs. Lincoln was always eccentric and since the assassination of her husband has been at intervals insane and confined to private asylums." Such was the paper's recollection of the most controversial First Lady in American history and it closely coincided with the national opinion of her.

The most fascinating aspect of the above report is the newspaper's failure to recognize her brief visit here for a few weeks in 1867, a little more than 2 years after her husband's shocking death. Even more astounding is the fact that all existing Racine newspapers in 1867 did not acknowledge her presence in the community.

Arriving here in June 1867 from Chicago, where she set up residence after leaving the White House, she secured rooms at Congress Hall, a hotel designed for elite travelers and renown state and national personalities. "I find the house where I am stopping," she wrote a friend, "very neat, clean and everyone anxious to please. I have a parlor and bedroom fronting the lake and I find the air very refreshing. I may probably remain here some weeks — I am finding the rest very beneficial to me."

Congress Hall, situated on the southwest corner of Third and Chatham streets, was originally built by Lorenzo Janes in 1849 to house his family and recently-developed land and real estate firm. Later, he was induced by Racine's increasing need for public housing to enlarge the structure, adding several rooms.

We know extremely little of Mrs. Lincoln's Racine visit because (1) Racine publications did not acknowledge, for one reason or another, her presence in the city, (2) many Racine residents who were knowledgeable of her actions failed to record their recollections of her, and (3) those who did volunteer verbal remembrances years afterward were inclined to give inaccurate information. What we can extract as truth concerning her visit comes primarily from the four letters she wrote from Congress Hall.

from the lips of others also."

However, facts overpower all persuasive testimonies and the fact remains that Tad was not in Racine during his mother's visit. Both Mrs. Lincoln and Tad were summoned to Washington to testify before Judge Pierpont at the trial of John Surratt, son of Mrs. Mary Surratt at whose boardinghouse the conspirators involved in the assassination plot had met. Tad recalled seeing a gentleman who resembled John Surratt on the Presidential yacht, the "River Queen," a few weeks prior to his father's death. His brother Robert accompanied him to Washington, while Mrs. Lincoln escaped to Racine — pleading illness.

Many citizens witnessed her frequent walks from Congress Hall, up Main Street to Fourteenth Street, and return to the hotel, stopping frequently to rest in East Park. One local resident described her as a "pleasant, but very pathetic person" who was "so dragged down with heavy mourning clothes." The widow wrote a Mrs. Atwater that "the walks here are shady and very pleasant. Each morning I have walked 2 miles." During the course of her 2-mile excursions she frequented the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Gallien and enjoyed lively conversation and cool lemonade on the Gallien's front porch.

The theory that Mary Lincoln sought out Racine to enroll her youngest son Tad at the DeKoven College, an Episcopal secondary school, remains unfounded. Mrs. Lincoln herself explained that her trip to Racine was designed for temporary "rest and quiet." With Tad in Washington and being unable to bear separation from her "little troublesome sunshine" for extended periods, she investigated the possibility of placing him at the college in order to have him close to her upon his return and in case she decided to remain in Racine for an indefinite period of time. Writing from Congress Hall, she explained that "life, without my little Taddie, is indeed a miserable existence."

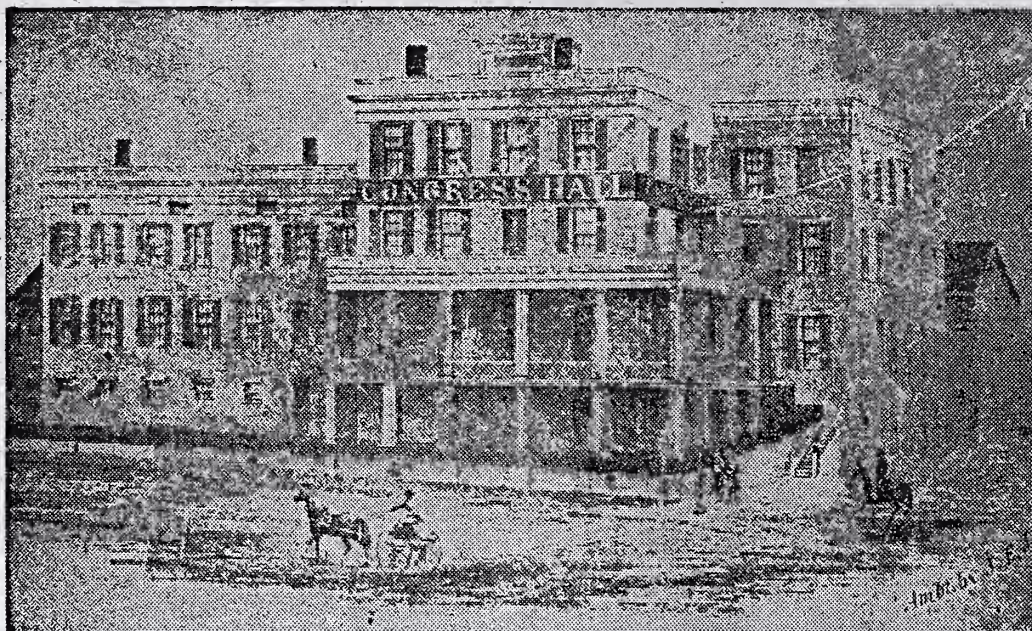
She toured the 90-acre college and was encouraged to enroll her son, but her letters reveal her prejudice against the school. She described Mr. DeKoven as a "Jesuit Priest" and felt the school was too "high church." The tuition was prohibitive. Also, she disapproved of the "air of restraint" which was predominant on the campus. Finally, "seeing the little white cots of the boys," she wrote, "where they are wont, to repose so far away, from the loving Mothers," sealed her determination to keep her boy at her side. Students were required to board at the school and were allowed only a single day away from educational influence a week. "How could I," she wrote to Mrs. At-

whether she would ever again settle in a permanent location, she wrote from Racine that she would probably never "undertake housekeeping again. After all," she explained, "without my All in this life, my dearly beloved husband, why should I seek to find a house, the ever vacant chair is always there and I cannot have a settled feeling, where none exists in my heart. Alas! Alas! How everything has changed."

Her letters also indicate that, although encouraging anonymity, her Racine visit was an enjoyable one. One possible explanation for the absence of her name in local print is that she often employed the name of "Mrs. Clark" in her attempt to avoid public scrutiny. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that she utilized the alias while residing at Congress Hall. However, the hotel's records were destroyed in Racine's "Big Fire of 1882," along with the entire structure. "I have surrounded myself with books and propose a great deal of reading, whilst I remain here," she wrote in her final letter. "...I would prefer, that my present solitude, should be unbroken."

Not only can Racine boast that it is one city of a limited number that entertained Mary Lincoln during her lifetime, but that it is the only city in the world which has erected a statue in her memory.

*Westine Report,
Feb. 25, 1982*



Congress Hall, Seneca Raymond, proprietor, Third Street, southwest corner of Chatham St., (now Lake Ave.) was the temporary residence of many celebrities of the 1860's, but the one that drew most attention historically speaking, was that of Mary Todd Lincoln, widow of the President, and her son, Tad.

Mrs. Abraham Lincoln Described Congress Hall; It Burned in 1882

<p>A letter from Mrs. Abraham Lincoln to her friend, Mrs. Atwood, written June 30, 1869, contains a description of her quarters at Congress Hall, where she stayed in Racine.</p> <p>"I find the house where I am staying very neat, clean, and everyone anxious to please. I have a parlor and bedroom fronting Lake Michigan and I find the air is very refreshing. I may probably remain here some weeks. I am finding the rest very beneficial to me,</p>	<p>without I am compelled from the necessity of my house neither being rented or sold to return to it . . . I find some friends residing here, Senator Doolittle and family. His wife is a sweet, unpretending woman with great good sense and a very sympathetic heart. She has been twice to see me and last evening, she called for me in her carriage to visit Racine College . . . Senator Doolittle resides almost adjoining the college. The walks here are</p>	<p>shady and very pleasant. Each morning I have walked two miles . . ."</p> <p>The hotel was a casualty of the "big fire" of 1882.</p>
---	--	--

Racine Journal-Times,
Centennial Edition,
1956



*L*AKE Avenue looking north from Fifth Street about 1880. The building with the smoking stack is the old M. M. Secor trunk factory. Mr. Secor, one of the most colorful personalities in Racine's history, once served as mayor. To the left of the larger sailboat in the picture is the old Congress Hotel which

was destroyed by the disastrous fire of 1882. A short time following the assassination of President Lincoln, Mrs. Lincoln and her son Tad came to Racine and lived at the Congress. It is generally believed that Tad Lincoln attended Racine College during their stay.



Racine College was at one time one of the outstanding preparatory schools in the United States. Taylor Hall (above) was named after Mrs. Isaac Taylor whose bequest to the college financed its construction. Built in 1867, Taylor Hall suffered several fires, one of which in 1875 gutted it completely. Reconstruction was financed by the citizens of Racine whose pride in the school was justified by

its widespread reputation. Among the students who later distinguished themselves were Generals "Billy" Mitchell and Mark Clark. For a short time after the assassination of his father, Tad Lincoln was enrolled as a student. During his stay in Racine, he and his mother lived at the Congress Hotel which was destroyed by the fire of 1882.

Modern Christian Education Was Cradled on Its Campus

The school's career is unequalled as a Christian education effort.

More than 500 former students of Racine College and Racine Military Academy are scattered throughout the country.

The most famous scholars include the late Brig. Gen. William "Billy" Mitchell, Earl Winfield Spencer, U. S. naval commander and the first husband of the Duchess of Windsor, Gen. Mark Wayne Clark, the late Tad Lincoln, son of the President, and the late A. J. Horlick.

Previous to enrolling her son in the school, Mrs. Lincoln, visiting Racine, wrote a letter to her personal friend, a Mrs. Atwood. The following excerpts are taken from this letter, dated June 30, 1869:

Mrs. Lincoln Approves Principles Of College

"I can not express to you how beautifully the college is situated on the banks of the lake, the grounds, 90 acres in extent, a complete grove with the buildings situated in the midst. We were, of course, most graciously received by the heads, Dr. DeKoven attired very much like a Jesuit priest. With an air of great suavity, he conducted us throughout the buildings.

"My feelings were especially moved by seeing the little white coats of the boys, where they are wont to repose so far away from their loving mothers who would at any moment almost give their lives to see them. Everything is beautiful and comfortable—yet how could I, who have been deprived of so much and have so little left to love, be separated from my precious child. It seems to be an exaction that each child must board at the college. Saturday they attend school and Monday is a holiday.

"As much as I am now feeling the necessity for Taddie being especially cared for and taught obedience by kind and gentle school treatment, yet there was an air of restraint which I did not exactly like. Yet it must be a most excellent school. It is still in session and remains so until Sept. 25. Is it not a strange order of things? And

then begins again in early November. . . .

"We found the boys assembled in chapel practicing their music. As you are aware, it is an Episcopalian institution, yet scholars of all denominations attend. I should judge they are high church; their singing amounted to almost a Te Deum."

(Racine College)
Racine, Wis.

Racine
Journal-Times,
Feb. 28, 1952

Eagle 'Old Abe'

True War Veteran

by Elizabeth Turrell

Traveling along Wisconsin State Highway #178, between Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls, one passes a historic marker commemorating the war activities of Old Abe, the famous mascot of the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Regiment in the Civil War.

One historian wrote that he fought in more battles than many of the soldiers. His sculptured image stands atop the Wisconsin monument in the United States Military Park at Vicksburg, Miss.

History records the heroic action of horses, dogs and pigeons in time of stress, but none ever achieved the stardom that Old Abe enjoyed.

It was sugar-making time in 1861 in the Flambeau River country of northern Wisconsin where Ashland and Pierre Counties meet.

Sky Chief, a Chippewa Indian, found the shivering young eagle. He took him in his arms and proceeded on his way to Eau Claire where he found a ready buyer for the bird. Daniel McCann of Eagle Point, Wis., paid one bushel of corn for him.

In Eau Claire, Company C of the 8th Wisconsin Regiment was being organized under Captain John E. Perkins. When the boys saw the eagle they decided to buy him for a mascot. They pooled their money, came up with \$5 and, from the first, Company C was known as the Eau Claire Eagles and the 8th was nicknamed the Eagle Regiment.

The bald eagle was taken to Madison and lovingly given the name of Old Abe and formally sworn into military service. Red, white and blue ribbons were tied around his neck and a rosette of the national colors was fastened on his breast. Soldier James McGinnis was appointed his attendant and the news of the remarkable mascot spread quickly.

Quartermaster Billings made him an attractive perch in the shape of a shield with stars and stripes painted on it and red, white and blue ribbons draped the staff.

Abe's biographer declared that no general attracted more attention as the army moved south than did their mascot. He occupied a conspicuous place with the colors, for Company C was the color company of the regiment and the color bearer, and the bearer of Old Abe, marched side by side.

In mid-October 1861 the Eagle Regiment passed through Chicago on its way to the western area of the war. A journalist with the *Eau Claire Press* wrote: "Formed in platoons, we took our way through the city, our Colonel and Gov. Alexander W. Randall leading us on horseback. The regiment as a whole and

our 'glorious bird' carried aloft at the head of our company appeared to divide equally the general attention and applause."

The 8th reached St. Louis and during a large parade Old Abe almost met with disaster. The martial music and the cheering crowds excited him and he jerked fiercely at the rope that tied him to the perch, flapped his wings, shrieked loud, and flew over the crowd. The parade was disbanded and the soldiers sought to retrieve him.

Old Abe was found walking calmly in an alley and he submitted willingly to his captors. He was tied more securely to his perch.

At Fredericktown, Mo., Oct. 21, 1861, the 8th Regiment saw active service. Old Abe sat out the action, chained to the courthouse roof, about one-half mile from the battle. He screamed encouragement to the men and clawed at his perch.

In camp the famous mascot amused himself by catching bugs, fishing in the creeks and stealing chickens from the regimental cooks.

The soldiers loved the 10-pound bird. They laughed at his antics and at times his understanding seemed almost human. During the war Old Abe did gallant service for it was his nature to be greatly excited in the midst of turmoil and calmed down when it ended. He announced the approach of the enemy by a shriek of alarm and during the battle would hover in the air watching the outcome with his sharp eyes.

He became famous among the men of the Confederate army also, for the sight of the bird gave them new courage. So well was this understood that, at the siege of Corinth, the Confederate General Price ordered his soldiers to "seize or capture the bird." He declared that he would rather capture Old Abe than a whole brigade.

Abe's biographer wrote: Finally, after 46 days of struggle, privation, hardship and peril, 16 days of which, the average for each man, was but a single cracker per day, the Federal Army with the Black Eagle of Illinois, General John A. Logan, at the head, and the bald eagle of Wisconsin on the left, entered Vicksburg, July 4, 1863, amid shouts, huzzas, and blare of trumpets."

Following the Vicksburg Campaign the 8th went into action in the Red River Expedition in Louisiana and Old Abe participated in a number of battles.

Three years of service warranted a furlough for the mascot and the veterans. They returned to Wisconsin and received a heroic welcome. One reporter wrote: Old Abe has grown considerably since I first saw him in 1861. He sits on his



SKETCH BY Marge Platt from drawing by J. R. Stuart.

perched undisturbed at any tumult or noise, the impersonation of haughty defiance. He has shared all the long marches of his regiment and passed through a great number of battles in which, once or twice, he had a number of feathers shot away, but never has received a scratch sufficient to draw blood.

After a wonderful furlough, Old Abe returned with the 8th Wisconsin to the war. His final battle was Hurricane Creek, Miss., Aug. 18, 1864.

He was returned home with discharged veterans, was presented to the state and accepted by the governor of Wisconsin.

Home for Old Abe was a large cage in a basement room of the state capitol. A faithful attendant supplied his every need.

He was in demand for public appearances, exhibitions and parades. Books, pamphlets, pictures of him, even feathers dropped from his wings and tail were sold. Little wonder that P.T. Barnum, the show man, offered \$20,000.00 for him. The offer was refused.

The proceeds from the sales were placed in a fund to help the needy and sick soldiers.

In 1866, at a political convention in

Peoria, Ill., Old Abe made an appearance. A resolution was passed, proposing the name of General Grant for 18th president of the United States. The crowd cheered, the band struck up "Hail To The Chief," Old Abe stretched his large form and flapped his wings, as if he approved the nomination.

The greatest exhibition was in 1876 at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, where thousands stopped to admire him in silent awe.

On March 26, 1881, a fire broke out in the capitol at Madison and Old Abe was suffocated by the dense smoke and died. Even in death he remained a revered symbol. A skilled taxidermist mounted his body and he was displayed at the State Capitol War Museum. In February 1904 another fire swept the building and Old Abe's body was destroyed.

This noble bird had spent 20 years, or his entire life, in the service of his country. He deserves to be remembered.

Author's note:

The list of battles in which Old Abe took part was taken from an article in a Chicago newspaper that reported Abe's death. Other information was also obtained from the article, as well as information from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the history of the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

THE STATE WISCONSIN TRADER

(ISSN 0041-2503)

Weekly Antique, Auction & Collectors' Newspaper for Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, western Pa., W. Va., Tenn., Wisc., Mo., N.Y.

Vol. 15, No. 32 (Whole 722) 2nd Class Postage Paid at Knightstown, Ind. 46148 — Phone 317-345-5133 Delivery. Mon., Nov. 8, 1982 (Within 600 miles) Nov. 13, 1982

Milwaukee History

The Magazine of the Milwaukee County Historical Society

Summer, 1984



Robert Todd Lincoln's Milwaukee Friend: Max Babb Of Allis-Chalmers

By Irving T. Babb

THIS IS the rather improbable story of a man practicing law in a small town in Iowa who accepted the position of legal counsel at Allis-Chalmers Company, as recommended by Robert Todd Lincoln, and eventually became president of the firm.

My father Max W. Babb was born in Mount Pleasant, Iowa on July 28, 1874. He was graduated from Iowa Wesleyan College in 1895 and received his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1897. Immediately thereafter, he entered the law practice with his father in Mount Pleasant under the firm name of Babb and Babb.

My father was brought up in quite a legal atmosphere. His father was a very active practitioner of law who later was elected judge of his home district. My father's aunt, Arabella Babb, had the distinction of becoming the first woman admitted to practice law in the United States when she was admitted to the Iowa bar in 1868. The Women's National Bar Association commemorated the 100th anniversary of this event in 1968 when they met in Burlington, Iowa and, since I was the only descendant in the legal profession, it fell upon me to deliver an address under the title "Relatively Speaking." It may be interesting to Wisconsin residents that in 1875 Rhoda Livinia Goodell made application to the Wisconsin Supreme Court for license to practice law in this state, citing my great aunt's Iowa case as precedent, but the application was denied on the ground that the practice of law was too rough for the finer sensibilities of females.

Although his relationship with my grandfather was most congenial, my father had always retained visions of practicing law in a larger environment, and Chicago was the goal he most desired. An opening for this opportunity came from a very fortuitous friendship with the family of Robert Lincoln, son of Abraham Lincoln.

United States Senator James Harlan was also a resident of Mount Pleasant, and his family and my father's family were very close friends. Senator Harlan was appointed by President Lincoln as Secretary of the Interior, but the president's assassination occurred before he took his oath as a cabinet officer.

Max W. Babb's career with Allis-Chalmers spanned 38 years. He first served as its legal counsel, then vice-president, president, and finally chairman of the board.



The Senator and Mrs. Harlan had one child, Mary, who married the president's son Robert Todd Lincoln. Robert and Mary had three children, one of them being Abraham, who was always known as "Jack" by both his parents and his friends. They lived in Chicago. After Senator Harlan retired and returned to Mount Pleasant, Robert Lincoln's children spent a generous amount of time with their grandparents. My father and Jack Lincoln, who were approximately the same age, became close childhood friends.

The friendly relationship with the Harlan family continued through the years, and my father probated the estate of the senator when he died in 1899. Thereafter my parents were invited by Robert and Mary Lincoln to spend time with them on several occasions at their summer home in Manchester, Vermont.

Lincoln was a top executive of the Pullman Car Company for many years and served on the boards of directors of many firms of national importance. My father had expressed to him a desire to practice law in Chicago and Lincoln kept this in mind.

In 1901 the Fraser and Chalmers Company was located in Chicago, and the Edward P. Allis Company in Milwaukee. In that year these two, together with two other companies, were merged to form the Allis-Chalmers Company. The offices were maintained in Chicago although many of the operations were conducted in Milwaukee.

In 1904 Robert Lincoln invited my father to dinner at his home in Chicago and informed him that Allis-Chalmers had grown to the point where it required a young, full-time legal counsel and that the opening was available to him if he so chose. Being a house

attorney was not what my father had in mind, but it offered the opportunity of moving to Chicago where he could appraise the various law firms and possibly make a connection with a desirable one. Therefore, he accepted the offer and moved to Chicago. In 1905 the entire Allis-Chalmers organization was moved to Milwaukee, and my father, after some months of agonized soul-searching, decided to remain with the company and leave Chicago.

For several years prior to 1912, Allis-Chalmers had experienced financial difficulty, and in that year was placed in receivership. General Otto H. Falk was appointed receiver by the federal court and when the company was finally discharged from the receivership in 1913, he was named president and my father vice-president. In those days a company had only one vice-president. This status continued until 1932 at which time General Falk became chairman of the board of directors and my father became president. He served as president until 1942, when he held the position of chairman of the board (General Falk had died in 1940) until his death in 1943.

During my father's presidency, there were several things which might be recalled with interest by Milwaukeeans with both sufficient age and long memories. In 1932 the Allis-Chalmers Company, which had been the largest employer in the area, was losing money at the rate of \$10,000 per day. The entire country was, of course, involved in a deep depression. Better times were to come in the later 1930s, but his early years as president were anything but an easy assignment. The farm implement business, as at the present time, was suffering badly and the orders for new equipment were about negligible. This condition persisted until the late '30s when the clouds of war in Europe began to penetrate our economy.

In 1940 our government, alarmed at our unpreparedness for war, began ordering military equipment. Furthermore, the British government had placed substantial orders for naval material. Allis-Chalmers was very much a part of all this renewed business activity. In the midst of all this, Harold Christoffel, president of Local 248, UAW, called a strike in 1941 based on the alleged approval vote of a majority of its members. The strike lasted for seventy-six days and held up \$45 million worth of military equipment.

Those who are old enough will remember this strike because it received national attention and was based entirely on fraud. In an action in the circuit court for Milwaukee county, the Allis-Chalmers Company established that a majority of the strike votes had been fraudulently marked in favor of the strike, and upon court order a new ballot was taken. The employees overwhelmingly voted to return to work.

One day in 1940 my father received a very hush-hush phone call that President Franklin D. Roosevelt would arrive without public knowledge to make an inspection tour of the Allis-Chalmers plant



In 1940 President Franklin D. Roosevelt made an unpublicized visit to the Allis-Chalmers plant in West Allis. With FDR are Wisconsin governor Julius Heil, and company president Max Babb.

which had become heavily engaged in producing material for the defense effort. The surprise visit was so successfully screened from the public that even the media were not aware of the visit until the following day. In fact, when my father called me that evening to say he had spent the day with President Roosevelt, I found it hard to digest.

My father's terms as company president had not been easy. His tenure started in the middle of the Great Depression when the work force was reduced to the minimum and ended during World War II when three shifts worked around the clock. All of this was a rather tremendous transition from a quiet practice of law in a small Iowan town.

My father continued his ties with the Lincolns even after the move to Milwaukee. Following Robert Lincoln's death in 1926, my father assisted Mary Lincoln regarding burial sites for her husband and son Jack.

It was generally assumed that upon Robert Lincoln's death he would also be interred with his father in the Lincoln Tomb at Springfield. However, his wife felt otherwise. Mary Lincoln believed that if her husband's remains were placed in the Lincoln Tomb, the memory of Robert Lincoln would gradually be submerged in the image of his father and his own identity as a prominent person would be forgotten. As minister to England

under President Benjamin Harrison, Lincoln was entitled to be buried in Arlington Cemetery, and his widow therefore elected it as his final resting place.

Some time after the death of her husband, Mary Lincoln became unhappy with the thought of her late son Jack and his father being separated. While the Lincoln family was in England, Jack contracted an undetermined malady (possibly septicemia arising from an operation on a carbuncle) and died. The boy's body was returned to America and interred in the Lincoln Tomb at Springfield, Illinois. Mrs. Lincoln asked my father if he would take whatever steps might be necessary to have Jack's body removed from the Lincoln Tomb and placed in the family plot in Arlington Cemetery.

This was no small assignment. It involved securing a special act of the Illinois legislature and also the consent of a special Lincoln Commission which had previously been created by the Illinois legislature to administer matters concerning the Lincoln Tomb. The poet, Carl Sandburg, was at that time chairman of this commission.

My father finally obtained the two necessary consents to remove Jack's casket from the Tomb. It was a cold, blustery day when the coffin was exposed late one afternoon. The newspapers had, of course, been aware that the Lincoln Tomb was to be opened, and there was a goodly representation of reporters.

An interesting incident occurred at the opening. There was a lead plate covering the casket on which was imprinted Jack's dates of birth and death. My father told Sandburg that the birth date on the plate was in error. When Sandburg asked why my father questioned the date, he replied that he attended Jack's birthday party many times at Senator Harlan's home and knew the date quite well.

So Sandburg called off the proceedings until the following day, thinking that it was impossible that any dates concerning the Lincoln family could be in error and that there might have been some tampering. Investigation that evening confirmed my father's recollection, and on the following day he proceeded to accompany the casket to Arlington. The reason for the incorrect inscription was never discovered.

After my father's success in reuniting her son and husband, Mary Lincoln gave considerable thought to how she might express her appreciation. She finally concluded to part with one of the prized possessions of the Lincoln family, a book carried by Abraham Lincoln during his presidency.

President Lincoln had always been known for his enjoyment of humorous anecdotes. Charles Farrar Browne was the outstanding humorist during the period of Lincoln's administration and wrote short articles under the name of Artemus Ward on any subject that occurred to him. His spelling was atrocious, which was part of the humor.

He collected his writings in a book called *Artemus Ward: His*



A lengthy and hostile strike in 1941 at Allis-Chalmers curtailed production of important United States military equipment. Court action determined that many of the original strike ballots were fraudulently cast and ordered that a new vote be taken. Union members voted overwhelmingly to return to work.

Book which was published in 1862. He presented Lincoln with a copy of the book in which he inscribed, "To His Excellency, President Lincoln."

This volume was carried by Lincoln in the tail of his frock coat on many occasions. He frequently read a chapter to his cabinet members before their meetings, much to the annoyance of Secretary of State Seward and Secretary of War Stanton. On the day Lincoln presented his immortal Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet, he opened the meeting by reading the following chapter:

HIGH-HANDED OUTRAGE AT UTICA

In the Faul of 1856, I showed my show in Utiky, a trooly grate sitty in the State of New York.

The people gave me a cordyal recepshun. The press was loud in her prases.

I day as I was givin a descripshun of my Beests and Snaiks in my usual flowry stile what was my skorn & disgust to see a big burly feller walk up to the cage containin my wax figgers of the Lord's Last Supper, and cease Judas Iscarrot by the feet and drag him out on the ground. He then commenced fur to pound him as hard as he cood.

'What under the son are you abowt?' cried I. Sez he, 'What did you bring this pussylanermus cuss here fur?' & he hit the wax figger another tremenjis blow on the hed.

Sez I, 'You agrejus ass, that air's a wax figger — a representashun of the false 'Postle.'

Sez he, 'That's all very well fur you to say but I tell you, old man, that Judas Iscarrot can't show hissself in Utiky with impunerty by a darn site!' with which observashun he kaved in Judassis hed. The young man belonged to 1 of the first

famerlies in Utiky. I sood him, and the Joory brawt in a verdict of Arson in the 3d degree.”

In Drinkwater's play of *Abraham Lincoln*, the president is shown reading to his cabinet from Artemus Ward prior to the Emancipation Proclamation. Many historians also refer to the incident, including Dr. Benjamin Thomas in his outstanding book, *Abraham Lincoln*.

The Artemus Ward book was, of course, one of the treasured possessions of the Lincoln family heirs. It was this volume which Mary Lincoln presented to my father with an accompanying letter dated April 26, 1933. My father derived much pleasure from the book during his lifetime.

When he died in 1943, my mother inherited the book, which she kept for a large part of the time in a safe deposit box. Following her death in 1951, I acquired possession of the Ward book since my brother, Max W. Babb, Jr., was younger than I, and my sister, Winifred Nolte, made no demands.

While the reading and re-reading of this priceless volume gave me great pleasure, there was the gnawing question as to its ultimate disposition. My sister, brother, and I had children and, while all was quiet on the western front among the parents, there was no way to avert the question as to the next succession of the book.

Fortunately our dilemma was answered for us. A very wealthy family by the name of Beinecke made a large contribution to Yale University for the construction of a beautiful rare book library. Since both my brother and I were graduates of Yale, this seemed a most appropriate repository for the book, as well as discharging a strong moral obligation to dispose of the gracious gift in a manner proper and acceptable to the descendants of the Abraham Lincoln family.

Therefore, the final end of this pleasant and unusual experience came in December, 1963 when my sister, brother and I permanently donated *Artemus Ward: His Book* to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University.

Authors

Patricia Blix Schmidt is a great-niece of Francis E. McGovern. She is a graduate of UW-Madison and teaches genealogy for the Milwaukee County Genealogical Society and UW Extension Traveling Teachers.

A native of Milwaukee, Irving T. Babb followed in his father's footsteps and also received a law degree from the University of Michigan. Now retired, he had been an attorney with

the local law firm of Quarles and Brady.

Timothy P. Maga is a previous contributor to the Society's quarterly magazine. During the coming year, he will be the American Historical Association's Congressional Fellow. His duties will include serving as a legislative counsel to the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.



CRIME DOESN'T PAY...



[CLASSIFIEDS](#) [REAL ESTATE](#) [EMPLOYMENT](#) [BUSINESS DIRECTORY](#) [DINING GUIDE](#)

[EXPLORE our website](#)

[National/World News](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Newspapers in Education](#) | [Contact Us](#)

QUICK LINKS

--Local News--

--U.S./World News--

--Classifieds--

--Special Sections--

--Photo galleries--

--News video--

SEARCH

Go

☒ GazetteExtra

☐ The Web

Search tips, help
FEATURED ADVERTISER



You are not logged in

[Login](#) | [Register](#) | [Why register?](#) | [FORGOT PASSWORD](#)

Lincoln-Tallman House repairs take time, money

(Published Saturday, October 6, 2007 01:12:15 AM CST)

By Shelly Birkelo/Gazette staff

JANESVILLE - At a glance, the Lincoln-Tallman House looks as stately as it did when William Morrison Tallman had it built between 1855-57.

But upon closer inspection, it becomes apparent repairs are needed to the magnificent Italianate mansion where Abraham Lincoln slept.

The city, which owns the house, and the Rock County Historical Society, which operates it as a museum, agree there are problems. But it takes money and time to fix the damage incurred by the 150 year-old house.

The city subsidizes the historical society, on average, \$70,000 a year as part of a lease agreement that expires Dec. 31.

Over the years, the agreement has been for different lengths of time. Money from the city is used to operate the house as a museum and pay for maintenance-mowing and shoveling-on the grounds.

A capital campaign is needed to make improvements to both the horse barn and the house itself, agreed Madge Murphy, executive director of the society, and Brad Cantrell, city community development director.

The society would like to get an estimate for total repairs, but for that to happen, a study by a national consultant needs to be done. That means a professional grant writer needs to be hired to acquire state and national dollars to pay for it. Grant money and local donations also will be sought to pay for the grant writer, Murphy said.

Advertisement




To comment

» Call our Sound Off line at 608.755.8335
» Write a letter to the editor
» Contact the news department at newsroom@gazetteextra.com.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Sexual Offender Public Search

Brought to you by:

 Prudential

Premiere Real Estate

SEE FOR YOURSELF



[View latest front page](#)



[Get your copy of the Gazette](#)

[Start a subscription to the Gazette](#)

[Try "Special Delivery"](#)

The study could get under way as early as spring 2008. Once the problems and costs are determined, they will be prioritized and a capital fund drive started as early as fall.

"It's not a fast thing," Murphy said.

Cantrell agreed.

"Finding people who do this craftsmanship work on wood fabricated in the 1850s is a challenge. So even once a plan is developed it could be a multi-year project."

There are several big-ticket items-the side porch deck and soffits-that need to be addressed now so the house doesn't further deteriorate, Cantrell said.

During the Sept. 24 city council meeting, members approved \$35,000 to make these repairs. This money was taken from a \$100,000 bond note set aside in the summer of 2006 for tuck pointing repairs that haven't been made yet.

Below is a list of Lincoln-Tallman House and horse barn problems the city and society are aware of:

- Tuck pointing-This masonry work maintains the mortar joints in the brick wall to keep water out and prevent the bricks from falling. It needs to be done as soon as possible.

Although this problem was brought to the attention of the Janesville City Council and members set aside a \$100,000 bond note summer 2006 for repairs, that didn't happen after bids came in at more than \$150,000, Cantrell said.

"When you're dealing with a house that is more than 100 years old, the construction technology is different and cost significant," Cantrell said.

- Side porch-This deck has some soft spots where the wood has deteriorated. This porch is not used as an entrance or exit to the house and is roped off until floorboards can be replaced. Costs for repairs have been estimated at \$17,000, Cantrell said.

- Soffits-There are holes in wood soffits and boards missing where squirrels or other small animals could get in. Cost for repairs is estimated at \$18,000.

- Roof-Repairs have been made over time to this original 150-year-old roof, including a couple spots that were sealed last year along with flashing-sheet metal used to reinforce and weatherproof joints and angles on a roof-replacement.

"Water got behind the flashing and went down the chimney, but the roof is not leaking now. We keep pretty close tabs on it," Murphy said.

"There's another five to eight years of life left when we can do spot repairs that have lengthened its life. But eventually a new roof will have to be put on the house," Cantrell said.

- Decorative trim-Although some of this was replaced in the early 1990s and enhances the beauty of the home, immediate attention is not necessary.

"Even though this is unsightly, it's not a safety issue and doesn't affect the house," Cantrell said.

- Exterior paint-It's likely to be lead-based. So even though no cost estimates have been obtained, it will be expensive to remove and repaint, Cantrell said.

- Horse barn-Although this building's foundation was stabilized in recent years, another \$350,000 worth of improvements are still needed to restore this building for public use.

Murphy is confident the community will support this initiative but admits "it can't be done overnight."

"To not take care of the Lincoln-Tallman House would be a loss," she said.

"When it was built at a cost of \$300,000, it was the most expensive, opulent house in the state of Wisconsin."

Ads by Google

View ads about:



Email This Story

BELOIT PRESERVES HER HISTORY

To the Editor of The Daily News:

The Landmarks committee of the Beloit Historical society is making investigations with a view to publishing a list of historical spots in the city. In so doing they have uncovered the interesting fact that every stage of Beloit's history is marked in some way so that future generations will know and reverence the men and women who have gone before them and to whom they are indebted for their beautiful city.

On the campus of Beloit college, facing College street, and in a slightly place upon one of the Indian mounds is a bronze marker which reads:

"Ancient Home of the Winnebago"

This covers the pre-historic history of the city, the time of the mound builders, the time of mystery.

In the city park, upon a splendid monument dedicated to the memory of Horace White, pioneer, founder and physician and that other Horace White, his son, who was a famous journalist, eminent economist and noted author, is engraved the words:

"There came westward in the winter of 1836 the emissary of a New England Community who chose this spot for a future home and gave this park to adorn the town thus founded. The talents and labors of his son were devoted to the service of the nation. This monument is erected to their deeds and to the beauty of their character."

In the downtown district, upon the face of a business building at the corner of Broad and State streets there has been placed a tablet to commemorate the visit of our martyred president. The inscription reads:

"In This Building Abraham Lincoln Addressed the Citizens of Beloit October 1, 1859."

Closely following this visit was the Civil war in which many Beloit men took part. Memorial hall, topping College hill, bears testimony to their memory. Inside the hall, upon marble tablets are engraved the names of the Beloit heroes.

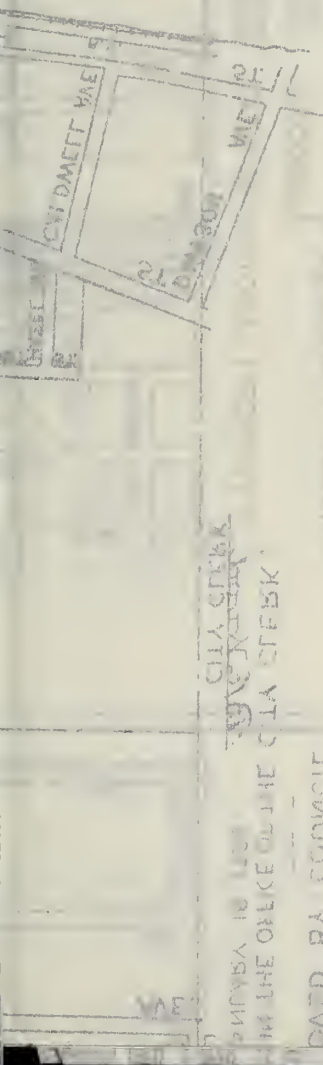
Each of the three late wars are marked by a monument. A soldiers' monument with five life-size figures stands in Oakwood cemetery upon what is known as the G. A. R. lot and nearby a bronze statue typical

of the "Boys of '98" recalls the unpleasantness with Spain. In the Eastlawn, or new burying ground, is a boulder with a bronze marker at the entrance to Argonne drive. A more pretentious World war monument will be erected later.

In the naming of streets the pioneers and noted citizens have been honored. Chapin, Emerson and Eaton, recall loved college professors, while Clary, Bushnell and Royce are the names of early clergymen. Merrill and Parker were heads of early manufacturing plants and Dickop street was named for Lieutenant Ray Dickop who lost his life in France and was mentioned for bravery by General Pershing.

With the exception of the two junior high schools which bear the names of Lincoln and Roosevelt, all of the schools of Beloit are called for citizens who have performed some worthy service for the city. The grade schools of Beloit are Strong, Burdge, Gaston, Merrill, Wright, Royce, Hackett, Waterman and Cunningham. What greater heritage could the boys and girls of a community have than this?

MAY L. BAUCILLE,
Chairman,
MRS. E. F. HANSEN,
R. H. WILSON,
Landmarks Committee
of Beloit Historical
Society.



CH DMEIT VAE
CH DMEIT VAE
CH DMEIT VAE

CH DMEIT VAE

CH DMEIT VAE

FOR

CH DMEIT VAE

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

BET OIL, SA

BELOIT PRESERVES HER HISTORY

To the Editor of The Daily News:

The Landmarks committee of the Beloit Historical society is making investigations with a view to publishing a list of historical spots in the city. In so doing they have uncovered the interesting fact that every stage of Beloit's history is marked in some way so that future generations will know and reverence the men and women who have gone before them and to whom they are indebted for their beautiful city.

On the campus of Beloit college, facing College street, and in a slightly place upon one of the Indian mounds is a bronze marker which reads:

"Ancient Home of the Winnabago"
This covers the pre-historic history of the city, the time of the mound builders, the time of mystery.

① In the city park, upon a splendid monument dedicated to the memory of Horace White, pioneer, founder and physician and that other Horace White, his son, who was a famous journalist, eminent economist and noted author, is engraved the words:

"There came westward in the winter of 1836 the emissary of a New England Community who chose this spot for a future home and gave this park to adorn the town thus founded. The talents and labors of his son were devoted to the service of the nation. This monument is erected to their deeds and to the beauty of their character."

② In the downtown district, upon the face of a business building at the corner of Broad and State streets there has been placed a tablet to commemorate the visit of our martyred president. The inscription reads:

"In This Building Abraham Lincoln Addressed the Citizens of Beloit October 1, 1859."

Closely following this visit was the Civil war in which many Beloit men took part. Memorial hall, topping College hill, bears testimony to their memory. Inside the hall, upon marble tablets are engraved the names of the Beloit heroes.

③ Each of the three late wars are marked by a monument. A soldiers' monument with five life-size figures stands in Oakwood cemetery upon what is known as the G. A. R. lot and nearby a bronze statue typical

of the "Boys of '98" recalls the unpleasantness with Spain. In the Eastlawn, or new burying ground, is a boulder with a bronze marker at the entrance to Argonne drive. A more pretentious World war monument will be erected later.

In the naming of streets the pioneers and noted citizens have been honored. Chapin, Emerson and Eaton, recall loved college professors, while Clary, Bushnell and Royce are the names of early clergymen. Merrill and Parker were heads of early manufacturing plants and Dickop street was named for Lieutenant Ray Dickop who lost his life in France and was mentioned for bravery by General Pershing.

With the exception of the two junior high schools which bear the names of Lincoln and Roosevelt, all of the schools of Beloit are called for citizens who have performed some worthy service for the city. The grade schools of Beloit are Strong, Burdge, Gaston, Merrill, Wright, Royce, Hackett, Waterman and Cunningham. What greater heritage could the boys and girls of a community have than this?

MAY L. BAUCILLE,
Chairman,
MRS. E. F. HANSEN,
R. H. WILSON,
Landmarks Committee
of Beloit Historical
Society.

4

& where Lincoln rested
in Black Hawk War

—show place of the midwest



Villa Louis



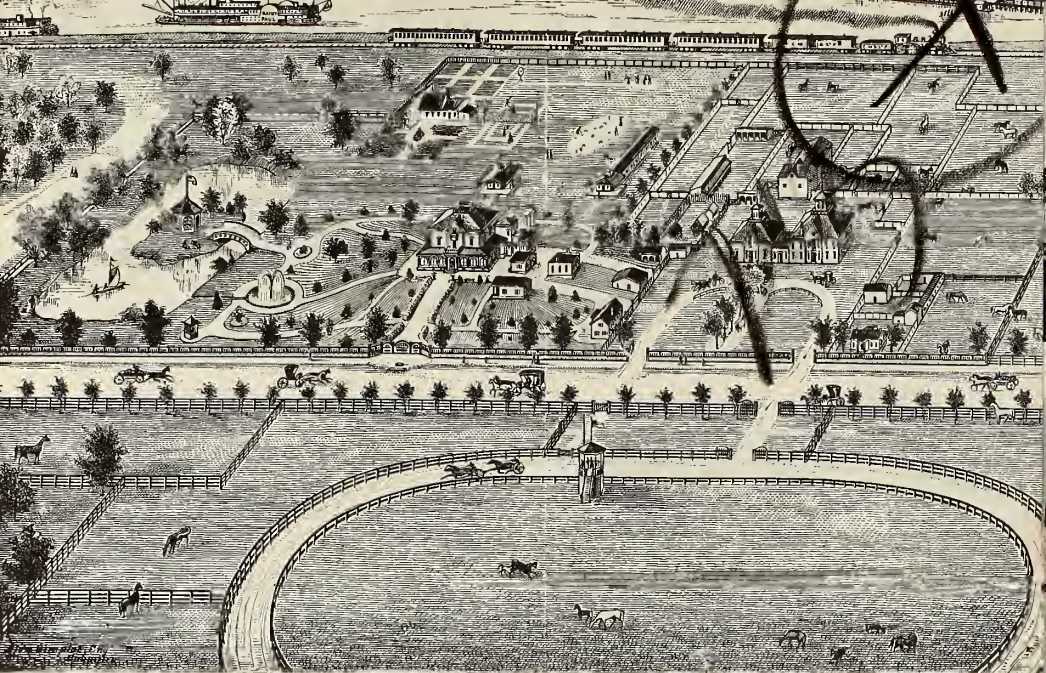
in historic

Prairie du Chien

Wisconsin



11. MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, 1854. Lithograph by D. W. MOODY, 25 x 40 $\frac{1}{4}$ plus margins, after drawing by George J. Robertson. Printed in colors by Endicott & Co., N. Y., published by Smith Bros. 1854—some tears neatly repaired—RARE. \$175.00.



Villa Louis and its grounds as they appeared in 1884.

As if by magic, you are taken back a century as you visit this charming mansion, with its original furnishings from frontier days.

Villa Louis — Wisconsin's most famous and best preserved historic home.

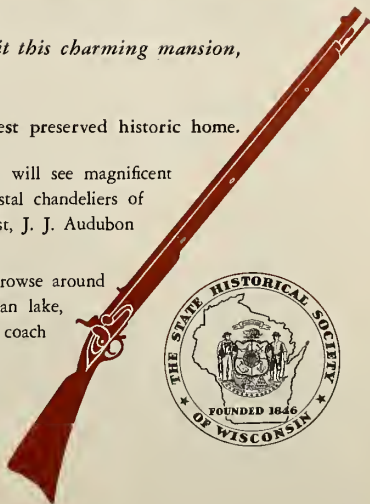
The past becomes alive when you visit century-old Villa Louis. You will see magnificent antique furniture . . . carved rosewood and mahogany pieces . . . crystal chandeliers of Waterford glass . . . original plates by the famous naturalist and artist, J. J. Audubon . . . 109-year-old Brussels carpeting.

You can go through the mansion, inspect its rare furnishings, and browse around the Villa grounds—including the old ice house and dairy, an artesian lake, the preserve room, the original office of Colonel Dousman, and the coach house which has been converted into a museum.

Situated on its mound with a commanding view of the Mississippi, the Villa is, indeed, the show place of the Midwest.

Admission: Adults 50c
Children 10c

9 to 5 — May 1 to June 15
8 to 7 — June 15 to Sept. 15
9 to 5 — Sept. 15 to Nov. 15



Visit Villa Louis

*Enchanting . . . Unique Show Place
of Yesteryear.*



Luxurious Villa Louis is the most famous of the many historic homes in Wisconsin . . . located in the second oldest city in the state, Prairie du Chien. French voyageurs, Indians, fur traders, and country gentlemen played a role in the story of Villa Louis and Prairie du Chien.

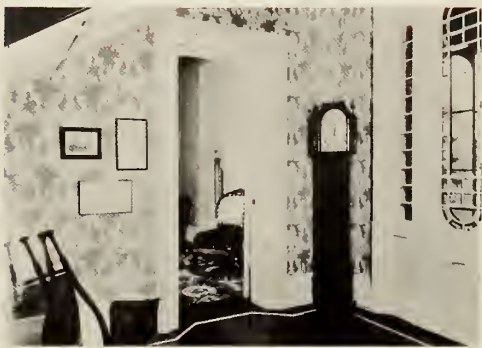
Here long, long ago prehistoric peoples built the huge mound on which the Villa Louis stands. Years later, the Fox Indians used this mound as a burial ground. Later Prairie du Chien became the camping grounds of early French explorers and voyageurs.

Here stood Forts Shelby and Crawford, two of the first American Army posts in Wisconsin, and the site where the American flag was flown for the first time in the state. After the War of 1812, Prairie du Chien became the fur trading center of the old Northwest Territory.

Colonel Hercules Dousman, builder of the Villa Louis, was Wisconsin's first millionaire. He was the agent of John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company which controlled trade with the Indians in an immense territory extending to the Red River Valley. The original house of Georgian architecture, built by Colonel Dousman in 1843, was constructed of 85,000 red bricks purchased in St. Louis for \$425.

Hercules Dousman and his beautiful, vivacious wife, Madame Dousman, entertained some of the most famous figures in American history in their "house on the mound," including Zachary Taylor, Jefferson Davis, and General Sibley.

In the early 1870's, the home was remodeled and enlarged by Madame Dousman and because of extensive changes made at that time its style today is Mid-Victorian. Originally an estate of 4,500 acres, the present Villa Louis consists of 84 acres, with the buildings just as they were remodeled by Madame Dousman.



In the 1930's the Villa was restored by Mrs. Virginia Dousman Bigelow. Certain family heirlooms were added by other Dousman descendants. Its interior has been called *the truest and most complete example of mid-nineteenth century style to be found anywhere in the Midwest.*

Villa Louis is now owned and operated by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. It is open to the general public daily.

. . .

Special tours for adult groups and school children
can be arranged by contacting the Curator,
Villa Louis, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.





Other Historic Points of Interest You Will See in Southwest Wisconsin



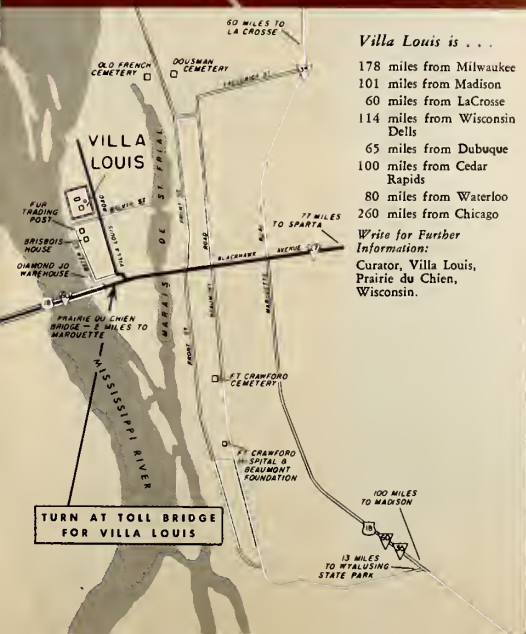
Shake Rag Street — Mineral Point

Nelson Dewey Homestead — Cassville

The Brisbois House — Prairie du Chien

St. Gabriel's Church — Prairie du Chien

Fort Crawford Military Hospital, now
Beaumont Foundation Building —
Prairie du Chien



Villa Louis is . . .

- 178 miles from Milwaukee
- 101 miles from Madison
- 60 miles from LaCrosse
- 114 miles from Wisconsin Dells
- 65 miles from Dubuque
- 100 miles from Cedar Rapids
- 80 miles from Waterloo
- 260 miles from Chicago

Write for Further Information:

Curator, Villa Louis,
Prairie du Chien,
Wisconsin.

Organized and Washington
County, Wisconsin, 1859
Visit of people from the
page 558

Book published in 1880

Journal of the Wisconsin Historical Society

Milwaukee

Look up the Port Washington
visit of Abraham Lincoln

See Hugh Holmes & copy
of family & childhood.

also see copy to Robert Doyle
Milwaukee Journal days
to Holmes

Lincoln arranged Coopers
meeting.

visited collecting Olaus

two special runs for

Lincoln in his house

Milwaukee. Tablet

"at the State Fair on
these grounds in 1859
near this spot. Abraham
Lincoln made an address.
This tablet as a
monument of that event
was erected under the
auspices of the old
Settlers club of
Milwaukee in 1928

Tablet on field stone on
No 13 St between Wells St
and Kilbourn St on west
side of street

Monument erected at Washington in
Antioch, Illinois to honor Oliver, who
lived in the Milwaukee section the west
house built 1859.

The monument went to W. J. Riley
Lathrop & Smith in 1859 to build
the monument.

WISCONSIN LANE CONTAINS NOTED LINCOLN SHRINE

Result of 30 Years' Work,
One of Most Complete Lin-
colniana Extant

SPECIAL TO THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

RIPON, Wis.—In a snow-banked Wisconsin lane, between Ripon and Oshkosh, A. H. Griffith lives with his collection of Lincolniana, including thousands of pieces of literature, said to be one of the most complete extant.

Rail fences zigzag across the white fields from the gray house where the farmer-scholar and his son make their home. Bonnie View Farm, as they call it, is hardly more pretentious than many of the simple buildings with which Lincoln, long before the days of the White House, was familiar.

Historians who climb the hill to the little frame cottage find rare editions of early Lincoln biographies, among them the "Life," by Herndon, Lincoln's law partner, which was at first suppressed because Herndon wrote frankly about the man he knew and loved, and Ward H. Lamon's critical biography, which aroused a storm of protest. There are rudely printed campaign biographies of 1860, including the Wigwam edition of "The Life and Speeches of Abram Lincoln," and much of the fiery political literature that was flung about at torchlight parades.

Representing an earlier period, there are contemporary copies of many of the books read by Lincoln in his youth, such as "Pike's Arithmetic," the "American Spelling Book" and "Kirkham's Grammar."

Most of the articles written about Abraham Lincoln in American and British magazines during 70 years have found their way to the little home in Wisconsin. The printed matter fills three rooms in stacks that reach to the ceiling. The collection includes biographies written in two dozen languages, including Arabic and Japanese.

Men in public life, far beyond the boundaries of Bonnie View Farm or even the State of Wisconsin, have been attracted by the appropriateness of this Lincoln shrine at the crossroad. David Lloyd George sent an autographed photograph. William H. Taft, former President and retired Chief Justice of the United States, and former President Warren G. Harding wrote Lincoln eulogies for the collection.

Republican State Headquarters
303 East Wilson Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN WISCONSIN

Three visits by Abraham Lincoln to Wisconsin are among the well authenticated trips that figured in the life of our sixteenth President. The first visit was in 1832 when, as a captain of the Illinois militia in the Black Hawk War, he advanced into the Wisconsin territory as far as Whitewater. The second visit is authenticated by personal recollections and local records which indicate that Lincoln returned to Wisconsin in the late 1830's. The other visit was the occasion for an address on Agriculture at the Wisconsin State Fair at Milwaukee, September 30, 1859, for a political address that night in downtown Milwaukee, and for political speeches the next day at Beloit and Janesville.

Lincoln's first visit to Wisconsin ended when his company was mustered out of service on July 10, 1832, near Whitewater. Lincoln had lost his horse and had to reach his home at New Salem, Illinois, as best he could on foot and by boat. He walked from Whitewater to Dixon, Illinois, and then to Peoria. At Peoria, he and his friend, Major John T. Stuart, bought a canoe, and paddled down the Illinois river to Havana, where they sold the canoe and walked, Stuart to Springfield and Lincoln back to New Salem. When Lincoln reached New Salem he became a candidate for the Illinois State Legislature, as a young man 23 years of age.

It is interesting to note that some historians think it probable that, during his first visit to Wisconsin during the Black Hawk War, Lincoln met the man who was ultimately to be proclaimed President of the Confederate States -- Jefferson Davis. It is believed the two men met at Fort Crawford (now Prairie du Chien).

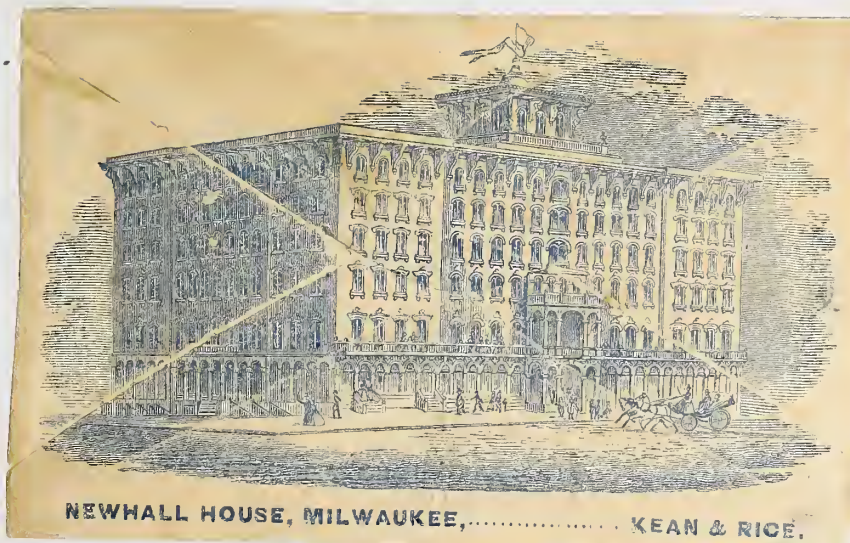
Lincoln's second visit to Wisconsin took place between 1835 and 1840 when he walked from Sheboygan to Milwaukee, stopping off at Port Washington. According to statements published in the "History of Washington and Ozaukee Counties" (1881), The Milwaukee Daily News (1909), and in a letter from State Senator Harry W. Bolens, of Port Washington, Lincoln was looking for a promising location to move his law practice and was very seriously considering Wisconsin.

The third Lincoln visit to Wisconsin took place on September 30, 1859, when he delivered the principal address at the Wisconsin State Fair in Milwaukee.

In his State Fair address Lincoln said:

"Educated people must labor. Otherwise, education itself would become a positive and intolerable evil. No country can sustain in idleness more than a small percentage of its numbers."

Lincoln left Milwaukee the following morning (October 1, 1859) and arrived at Beloit at noon. That afternoon he spoke under the auspices of the Beloit Republican Club. Later that same day he spoke in the Rock County Court House at Janesville, remained in Janesville until October 3rd, when he returned to Chicago.



NEWHALL HOUSE, MILWAUKEE, KEAN & RICE.

LINCOLN-TALLMAN RESTORATIONS



ROCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

William Morrison Tallman

William Morrison Tallman, a prominent businessman and philanthropist, was born in 1845 in New York City. He was the son of a wealthy family and attended the best schools in the city. He was a member of the New York Stock Exchange and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

When William was young, he was very interested in the stock market. He was a member of the New York Stock Exchange and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

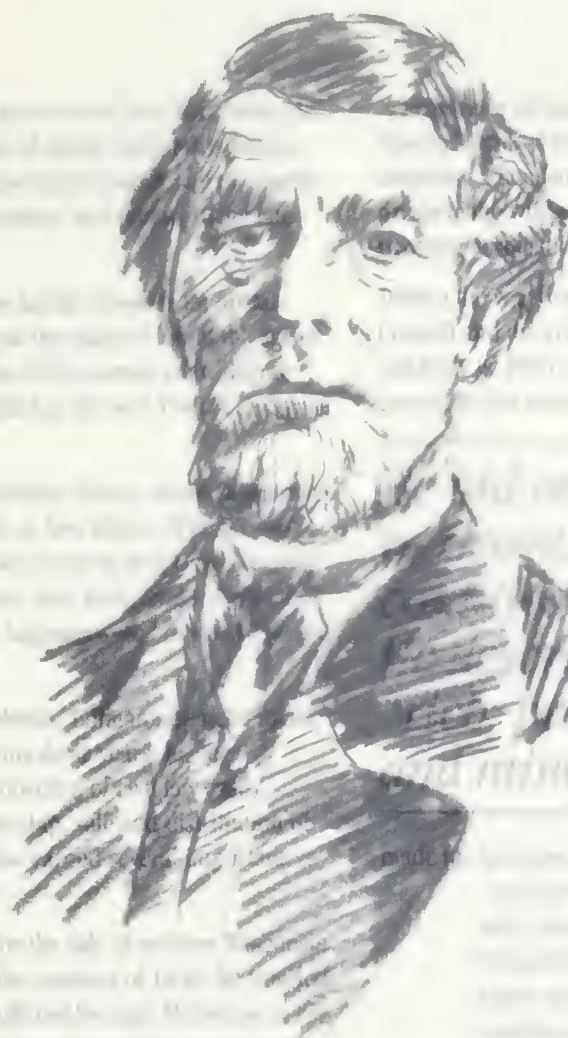
William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.



William Morrison Tallman, a prominent businessman and philanthropist, was born in 1845 in New York City. He was the son of a wealthy family and attended the best schools in the city. He was a member of the New York Stock Exchange and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

When William was young, he was very interested in the stock market. He was a member of the New York Stock Exchange and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.

William was a very successful businessman and was involved in many other business ventures. He was also a member of the New York City Board of Education and was involved in many other civic activities.



William Morrison Tallman

William Morrison Tallman's original ties were to New York State. He was raised there, one of four children of David and Eunice Burton Tallman. The elder Tallman, a land speculator, purchased thousands of acres of land in New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

When William was eight years old, the family moved from upstate New York to Brooklyn, where he began the study of law at the age of 13. He graduated from Yale College in 1830, earned a law degree from Yale Law School, and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1833.

While at Yale College, William met Emeline Dexter, whom he married in 1831. The Dexters were merchants in New Haven. William and Emeline's first child, William Henry, was born in New Haven in 1832. A year later, the family moved to Rome, New York, where their other children, Edgar Dexter and Cornelia Augusta, were born in 1836 and 1838, respectively.

As a member of the New York State Militia, Tallman advanced up the ladder of military appointments. During these years, his legal practice flourished. His legal work consisted of civil law cases, primarily those concerned with ownership, sale and distribution of land rights. During this period, he also earned several important county and state court appointments.

In the late 1840s, an advertisement for the sale of western Wisconsin lands caught Tallman's attention. In the summer of 1848, he traveled west to personally inspect the lands offered for sale. He bid on 4,476 scattered acres in Green, Grant and Lafayette counties at a price of \$10,495. He described the purchase as "rich, productive, agricultural and mineral land." In November 1848, he advertised the land for sale. By 1866, he calculated the land had sold for \$60,232, or a return of about 575% on his investment.

In the meantime, he established law offices at Platteville, Milwaukee, and Monroe, and in 1850 moved his family to Janesville, where he joined the law firm of Smith and Parker. A. Hyatt Smith, who would become Janesville's first mayor in 1853, soon left the firm. By 1854, after several changes of partners, Tallman had dissolved the partnership and temporarily suspended his law practice to begin work on his family's new home.

Through these years, Tallman was an active citizen. He was an

incorporator of the Central Bank of Wisconsin, forerunner of the 1st National Bank of Janesville. He acquired additional property, including a handsome business block on South Main Street. A club to preserve the wild game of Rock County and the Janesville Tree Growing Association also attracted his interest.

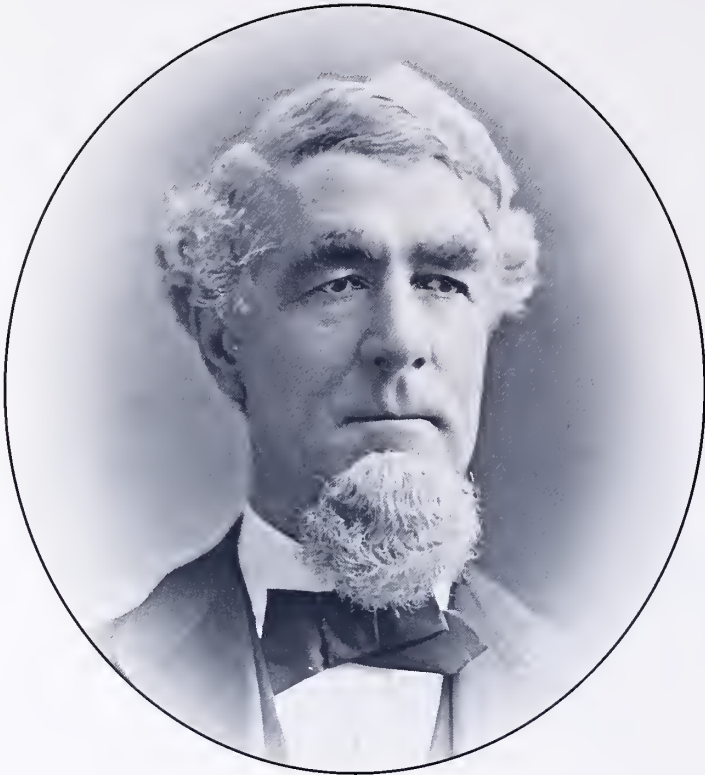
During the war years, Tallman served on the Janesville Aldermanic Council and the county board of supervisors. His daughter died suddenly in 1866 and he seemed less and less interested in an active career. At this time it was rumored that an offer of \$30,000 had been

He bid on 4,476 scattered acres in Green, Grant and Lafayette counties at a price of \$10,495. He described the purchase as "rich, productive, agricultural and mineral land."

made for his home. Of the incident, he wrote,
...my house was built to keep, not to sell...but the course of nature and Divine Providence has so reduced the number of my family that...I therefore concluded to make a sacrifice of at least \$10,000 on its cost... but my proposal was not accepted.

He and Mrs. Tallman apparently wanted to go abroad, and thus he was willing to sell up his properties.

In 1878, Tallman took a trip to New Orleans and up the coast to Washington, D.C. and New York. While in Washington in April, he became ill with a severe cold. Fearing pneumonia, he hurried to his younger brother's home in New York. By the end of the month, he seemed well enough to travel. He was brought back to Janesville, where he lingered until his death on May 13. He was buried three days later in Oakhill Cemetery. His wife, who had been in ill health for a number of years, died on June 7 and was laid to rest beside her husband.



William M. Tallman



Emeline Dexter Tallman



The Significance of the Lincoln-Tallman House



The Milwaukee cream brick mansion and grounds at 440 North Jackson Street in Janesville are familiar to many as the site of fall twilight tours, summer art festivals, and visits from school groups. While the Tallman Restorations have always held local interest, their full value in architectural and social history may not be well-known.

It sometimes takes an outside observer to remind residents what a treasure they have in their midst.

When historic architect Roy Eugene Graham visited Janesville in the summer of 1991, he judged the Lincoln-Tallman House to be "a jewel among pearls." The pearls, Graham suggested in a follow-up report, are the large number of intact historic homes in Janesville, "some of the most interesting and best examples of Victorian domestic architecture that still exist in any city in the country."



*The Tallman House in 1871 was called
“...the finest and most costly residence in Wisconsin.”*



In *The Architecture of Wisconsin*, Richard W.E. Perrin described the Tallman House as “one of the finest Wisconsin survivals” of the Italian villa style. “In massing, scale, and rich detail both inside and outside, the Tallman House typifies the more sophisticated Italian Villa of Victorian times,” Perrin wrote.

Perrin’s assessment helped the Tallman House earn a place on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971.

A Family Home First

After engaging in Wisconsin land acquisition and sales for a number of years, William Morrison Tallman moved his law practice and family from Rome, New York, to Janesville in 1850. In 1854 he turned his attention to overseeing construction of a three-story home fitted with all the modern conveniences. Work began on the main house and horse barn in 1855. The project took two years.

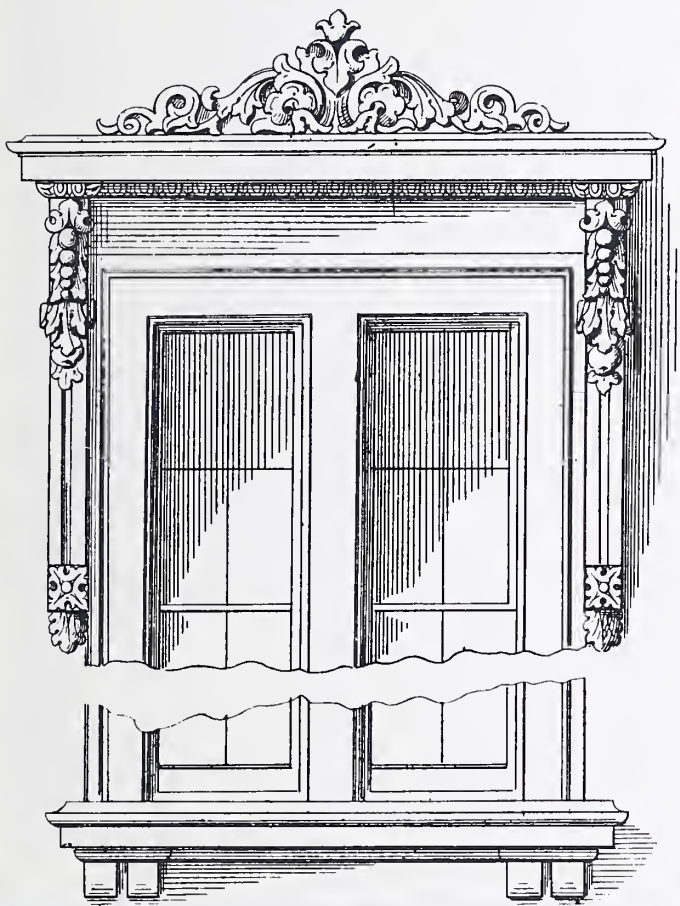
Tallman had already remodeled at least two houses in New York, and he knew exactly what he wanted in the new house. He wanted large walk-in closets with built-in storage drawers for every bedchamber, a complete water system, a furnace capable of heating the family quarters on the main and second floors, and an indoor privy at the rear of the structure. These comforts, plus marble mantels, enamelled grates, and porcelain wash basins, were all available at mid-century to the small class of monied families that could afford them. Gas pipes were installed in 1857 anticipating the gasoliers hung in 1870. The west portico was added in 1870.

The large house was situated in its own handsomely planted park. The park itself was enclosed by a fence of tall pickets,

while an ornate fence section gave a view of the house from the street. On the south drive, an elaborate carriage entrance featured free-standing Corinthian columns supporting a decorative roof over sliding gates, which stood in stately splendor over the macadamized (broken stone) driveway.

The Tallman House in 1871 was called "...the finest and most costly residence in Wisconsin." Some 80 years later, the director of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin dubbed it "one of the showplaces of Wisconsin."

While no record has yet positively identified the building's architect, the Tallman House boasts many features found in an 1852 work by notable architect Samuel Sloan. Such diverse features as the cupola, glass entrance, south porch columns, newel post, window hoods, and horse barn can be traced directly to Sloan's *The Model Architect*, a classic pattern book.



Janesville has "some of the most interesting and best examples of Victorian domestic architecture that still exist in any city in the country... The Lincoln-Tallman House is a jewel among pearls." -Roy Eugene Graham, historic architect





Room arrangements place the sitting room, dining rooms, and parlors on the principal floor, with the pantries, food storage rooms and kitchen in the basement and the bedrooms on the second and third stories.

The main staircase does not intrude into the central hall on either floor. It is a part of the middle, or working, section of the house, a section that includes staircases, the main entry from the carriage drive, kitchen, rear dining room, dumb waiter, bathing room and cistern.

The Lincoln Visit

William Tallman was very concerned with political issues of his day. He found slavery morally repugnant and crusaded for its abolition for 30 years. In the rising Republican Party, Tallman found agreement with his own views on temperance and abolition of slavery. He joined the party, with which Abraham Lincoln was active in Illinois.

In 1859, Lincoln conducted a speaking tour that led him from the state fairgrounds in Milwaukee to Beloit. Tallman and other

party members went to Beloit to hear Lincoln speak. Lincoln accepted an invitation to address the Janesville Republican Club in Janesville that evening, and spent the weekend of October 1-2 with the Tallmans at their new home. The house is now unique in the state; it is the only private Wisconsin home yet standing in which Lincoln stayed.

The Lincoln-Tallman Museum

William Tallman and his wife, Emeline, both died in 1878. The Tallman buildings were vacant from 1915 until 1950, when William and Emeline's grandson George K. Tallman donated the property to the City of Janesville to be operated as a public museum. George Tallman requested that the property be known as the Lincoln-Tallman House Museum.

In 1951, the city entered into a contract with the Rock County Historical Society to operate the site as a museum. The lease specified that the city was to own the buildings and provide for their maintenance while the historical society would acquire and display the furnishings as well as manage and promote the site. This arrangement continues today.

Stated objectives of the Tallman Restorations are:

- To maintain and provide for the preservation of the Tallman Restorations, and
- To provide quality educational and cultural activities and experiences for school children, adult residents, tourists and the general public.

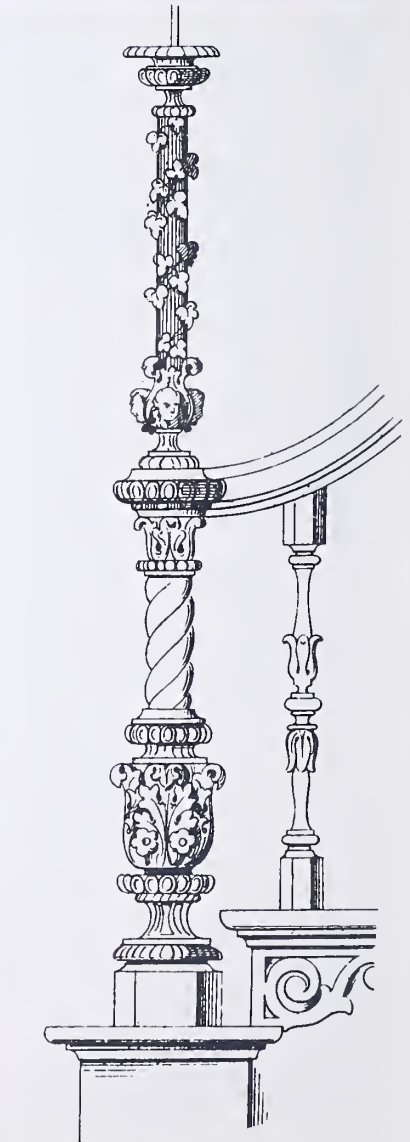
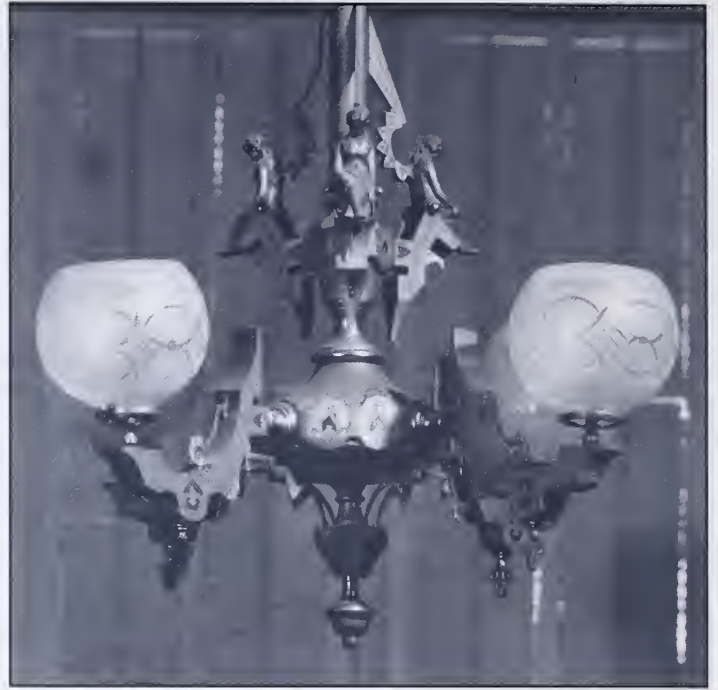




Project 640

In 1991, spurred by an anonymous donation of \$250,000 and a matching gift from the City of Janesville, the Rock County Historical Society decided to seek additional monies to make possible a comprehensive restoration of the Tallman buildings, furnishings, and grounds. Because the capital campaign goal came to \$640,000, the restoration effort is titled project 640. Washington D.C. architect Roy Eugene Graham, a specialist in historic architecture, was retained to assess the repairs and improvements needed. Graham is also the architect for the restoration work itself. He said,

Not only is Project 640 creating the opportunity to restore and make a major historic museum complex of an individual site, but the project will provide a catalyst to the entire community to preserve, restore and plan for the tourist mecca that could someday be a major attraction for visitors to the Midwest.



LINCOLN-TALLMAN RESTORATIONS: A Brief Chronology

1808	William Morrison Tallman is born in Oneida County, New York.	1878	William Morrison Tallman dies May 12. His wife Emeline dies June 7.
1831	William Morrison Tallman marries Emeline Dexter at Hartford Connecticut.	1896	Edgar Dexter Tallman dies August 18 at the Tallman House.
1832	Tallman family settles at Rome, New York and commences practice of law.	1902	William Henry Tallman dies October 29 at the Tallman House.
1838-41	Tallman remodels the Barnes-Mudge House, Rome, New York.	1915	Beginning in March and ending with a Wednesday morning sale in November Mrs. Edgar Dexter Tallman sells carpets, hall chairs, a gas heater and other furniture from the Tallman house. She moves to the new house built by her son, Charles Edward Tallman next door, south of the house. The Tallman house is closed.
1841-45	Tallman remodels the Hollister-Aldridge House, Rome, New York.	1950	George Kemp Tallman, son of William Henry Tallman deeds the Tallman House to the City of Janesville on June 26 to be "...used and maintained by it permanently as a public museum...". He dies July 8.
1848	At a land auction in Philadelphia, Tallman purchased 4,476 acres in Green, Grant, Iowa and LaFayette Counties in Wisconsin for \$10,495.	1950-57	Alice MacGregor Tallman, widow of George Kemp Tallman and her sister Margaret Ehrlinger donate significant family heirlooms to the museum.
1850	Tallman, his wife and three children, William Henry, Edgar Dexter and Cornelia Augusta move to Janesville, Wisconsin. Tallman practices law.	1951	The Tallman House opens to the public as a house museum.
1855-57	Tallman devotes full time to supervision of building and landscaping of his new home.	1957	Alice MacGregor Tallman dies August 29 leaving significant Tallman memorabilia to the museum.
1859	Abraham Lincoln speaks at the Wisconsin State Fair in Milwaukee and then in Beloit where he is persuaded to come to Janesville. He stays the weekend at the Tallman House.	1967	Fred Jungblut, former caretaker for George Kemp Tallman donates additional Tallman memorabilia and furniture.
1860	Photographs are taken of the Tallman House and plans for the west-porch are purchased.	1971	Piano purchased by William Morrison Tallman is returned to the Tallman House by Stanley Dexter Tallman family.
1861	William Henry Tallman marries Margaret Meyers Travis and moves out of the Tallman House. Edgar Dexter Tallman marries Frances Cornelia Norton and continues to reside at the Tallman House.	1989	Tallman artifacts and furniture purchased by the Society from Mrs. Laurel Kapke, great-great-granddaughter of William Morrison Tallman.
1865	Cornelia August Tallman marries John P. Beach at the Tallman House and moves to Chicago.	1991	Drawing room, Cornelia Augusta Tallman's bedroom and guest room furniture including the Lincoln bed along with other furnishings and artifacts are purchased by the Society and returned to the Tallman House.
1866	Cornelia Augusta Tallman Beach dies June 15.		
1870	The west porch is added to the house and the gasoliers are illuminated for the first time.		

PUBLISHER

Rock County Historical Society
Copyright 1991. All Rights Reserved.

TEXT AND GRAPHIC DESIGN

Maurice J. Montgomery, research and writer
Linda Belknap, writer
Gary Lenox, writer
Gerald Mosher, project coordinator and designer
Dana L. Thorpe, editor
12twelve Design, graphics designer

PHOTOGRAPHY

Rock County Historical Society Archives-p.
Bill Olmsted - p. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10

PRINTING

Terry Printing, Inc.

Your purchase of this document benefits the ongoing restoration of the Lincoln-Tallman Restorations. For more information concerning programs or contributions to the restoration project, contact:

Rock County Historical Society
10 S. High Street
P.O. Box 8096
Janesville, Wisconsin 53547

(608) 756-4509

Read in 2001

WISCONSIN

DRAWER 12A

MIDWEST

